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Issue 97 September 2012 R27,00 (VAT incl.)

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HI, KIDS

In September we celebrate Heritage Day. Finding out about other people's cultures is very rewarding. I learnt a lot from a reader who comes from Russia.

"My name is Arina. I'm from Russia, but now my family live in Africa, in Angola. I'm writing to thank you so much for your magazine. We like reading National Geographic KIDS as all of us are interested in rare animals, exotic plants, beautiful shells and crystals."

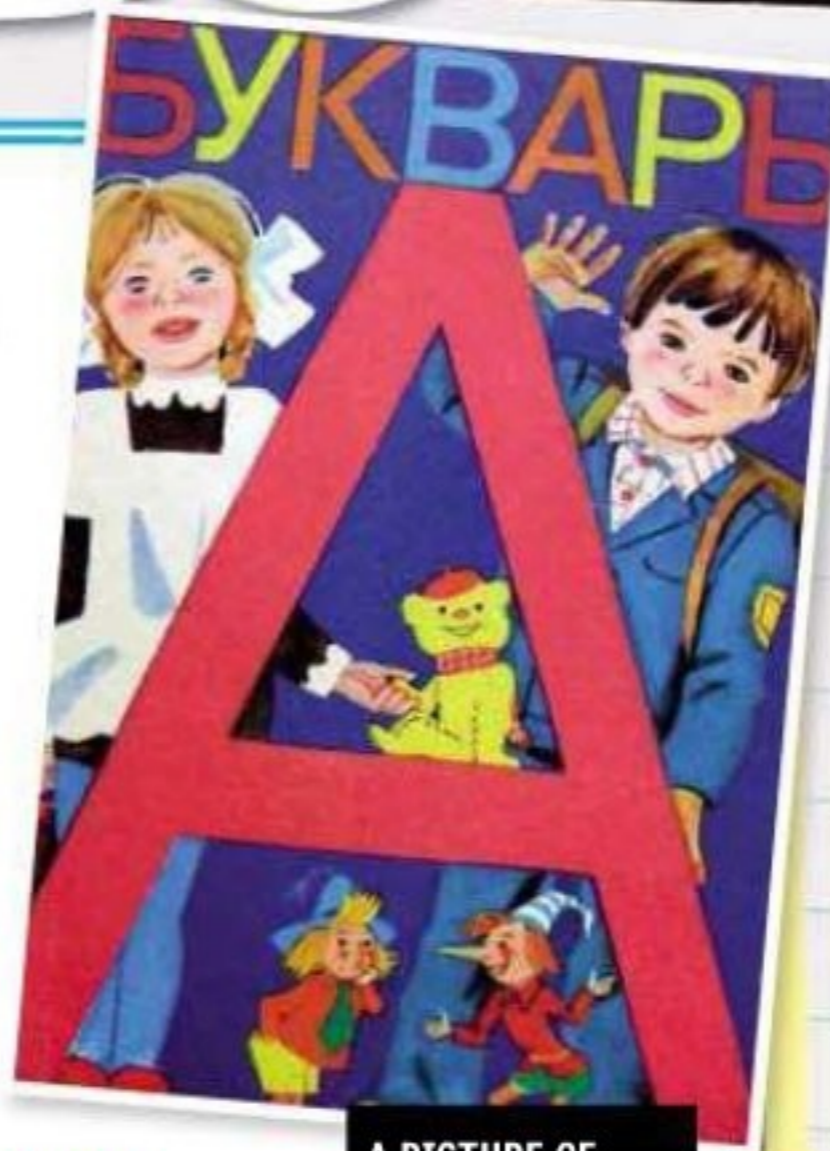
I wrote back to ask her about the Russian alphabet. This is what she said: "Everybody knows that Russian language is very difficult both for speaking and especially for writing. That's why we start learning how to write and read letters very early. At first we start with our mothers and then at school with teachers. The Russian alphabet has 33 letters (10 vowels and 23 consonants) and 42 sounds. According to the rules some vowels cannot be sounds."

She also said her teachers are very strict!

Make an effort this month to find out about different religious customs or what people from another culture eat or wear. The important thing to remember all year is to have respect for people who do things differently to you.

We'd love to find out more about YOU and your culture. Please send me photos and information and we'll share it with NG KIDS readers.

Dare to Explore!



A PICTURE OF THE BOOK USE TO TEACH RUSSIAN KIDS TO READ

WRITE TO US!

Send us your letters, birthday dates, pictures and comments. We want to hear from you, so start writing!

• Write to us at: The Editor, NG KIDS, PO Box 740, Cape Town 8000.

• Send us an e-mail to fiona@ngkids.co.za or SMS* us a letter to "NGK Letters" 33970.

* See page 49 for terms and conditions.

LETTER OF THE MONTH

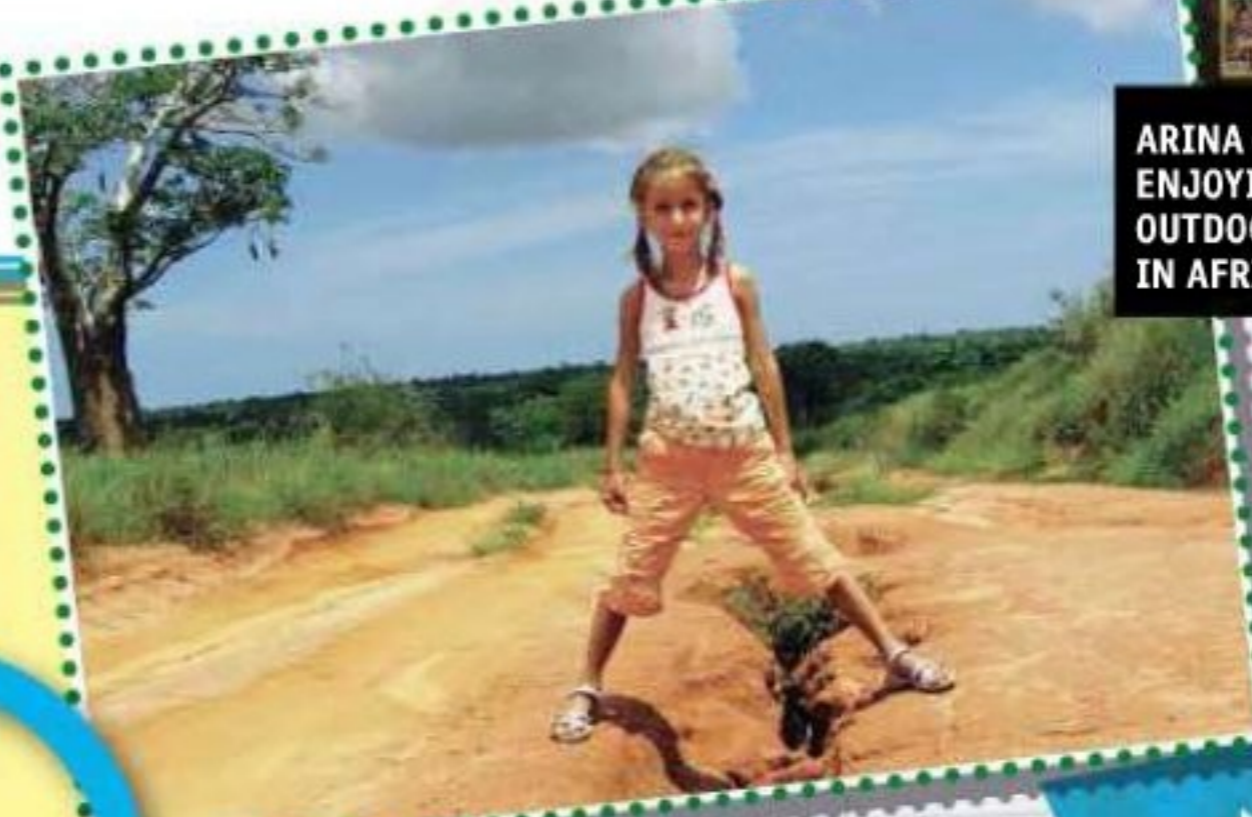
DEAR FIONA AND TEAM

THIS IS A PHOTO OF MY BROTHER DYLAN AND I WITH ALL OUR MAGAZINES. WE HAVE 71 ISSUES AND ARE ONLY MISSING A FEW. DYLAN IS 8 AND I AM 11 YEARS OLD. WE ATTEND MONUMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL IN KRUGERSDORP, GAUTENG. WE LOVE NG KIDS AND HAVE BEEN COLLECTING ISSUES SINCE 2006. I KNOW IT'S KIND OF LATE BUT HAPPY BIRTHDAY! MY FAVOURITE ISSUE WAS THE NOVEMBER 2008 DINO MIGHT AND MONSTERS OF THE KAROO. I THINK IT'S AWESOME! WE LIVE IN A WONDER-FILLED WORLD. WHEN I WAS IN GRADE R YOU PUBLISHED A PICTURE OF MY BIRDFEEDER, SO THANKS FOR BEING AWESOME!

DEREK ESTERHUIZEN, 11, KRUGERSDORP



ARINA (9) ENJOYING OUTDOOR LIFE IN AFRICA.



SUBSCRIBERS OF THE MONTH

September's subscribers of the month are James Cowan (5) from Durban, Starrion Fenn (10) from Johannesburg and Soetendal Primary in Wellington. They've each won an ACT II Microwave Popcorn hamper which includes eight boxes (two of each flavour) of ACT II 3-packs worth R250. Whether it's for a party, braai, the movies or a snack, ACT II microwave popcorn is a convenient and healthy choice for the family. With four fantastic flavours – salted, butter, light butter and butter lovers – ACT II has popcorn to please any taste bud! ACT II is available at all major food shops.

Visit www.actii.com for more information.



FIND ME!

The Table Mountain ghost frog is in trouble! To create awareness, we hid ten of them in the magazine. Here's one, but can you spot all ten?



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Hero Mum

A mother lion braves a cliff to save her stranded cub.

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30 Cool Things About Cities

Take a trip around the world with these amazing facts.

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Eland Tales

Meet the eland – the giant buck of Southern Africa.

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Lifestyles of the Rich and Furry

Some pets just have it all.

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Family Project

Recycle old things to make new ones!

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On the Cover

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{inside}

SCOOP

Braai for Heritage

On 24 September South Africans celebrate Heritage Day by honouring the many cultures that make up our rainbow nation. Nowadays people also know the date as Braai Day – a day for friends and families of all cultures to celebrate South Africa's diversity by having a braai. NG KIDS caught up with Jan Braai, the brain behind Braai Day, to find out more.

NG KIDS: Why do you love a braai so much?

Jan Braai: Being outside next to a fire while playing in a garden or park is much nicer than being in a kitchen.

NGK: How many years has Braai Day been going?

JB: Braaing is the oldest form of cooking food known to mankind. It's thousands of years old. Braai Day has been going for seven years, since 2005.

NGK: Why did you choose braaing as a symbol to honour our heritage?

JB: It is our common heritage. It's the one thing that all South Africans love to do. No matter what school you go to, what language you speak or what sport you play, everybody braais. It is fantastic to have one thing that can truly unite all South Africans.

NGK: If you could choose three special people to braai with, who would they be?

JB: Desmond Tutu, Charlize Theron and Charlene Wittstock. They are influential South Africans who can help me spread the National Braai Day message.

NGK: What's your favourite thing to braai?

JB: Good quality boerewors.

NGK: You have a TV show now. What will it be about?

JB: We travel to all the most beautiful places in South Africa and braai local food with local people. *Jan Braai vir Erfenis* is on kykNET (Channel 111) on Thursdays at 5.30 p.m.

NGK: Do you have any cool recycling tips when it comes to having a braai?

JB: Use wood from alien vegetation like rooikrans or wattle. If you are using any cans or bottles, be sure to dispose of them in a recycling bin.



JAN DOING
WHAT HE
LOVES BEST
...BRAAING!

You CAN do it

Get your school involved in the Collect-a-Can Guinness World Record for "collecting the most number of cans in a single month". The plan is for them to beat their own record of over 4 million cans (4 586 656 to be exact) recycled in October 2011. Are you up for the challenge to help them reach another world record this year? There are lots of prizes up for grabs and it's your chance to do your bit for the environment – too many cans still end up on landfills! Go to www.collectacan.co.za for more information.

SPRING CLEAN

Clean up South Africa Week will take place from 10 to 15 September 2012. Two highlights of this week will be National Recycling Day, on Friday 14 September and International Coastal Clean-up on Saturday, 15 September.



WIN A BOOK!

Win one of three copies of Jan's new book, *Fireworks*.

SMS "NGK FIRE", followed by your name, age and city to 33970.

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22

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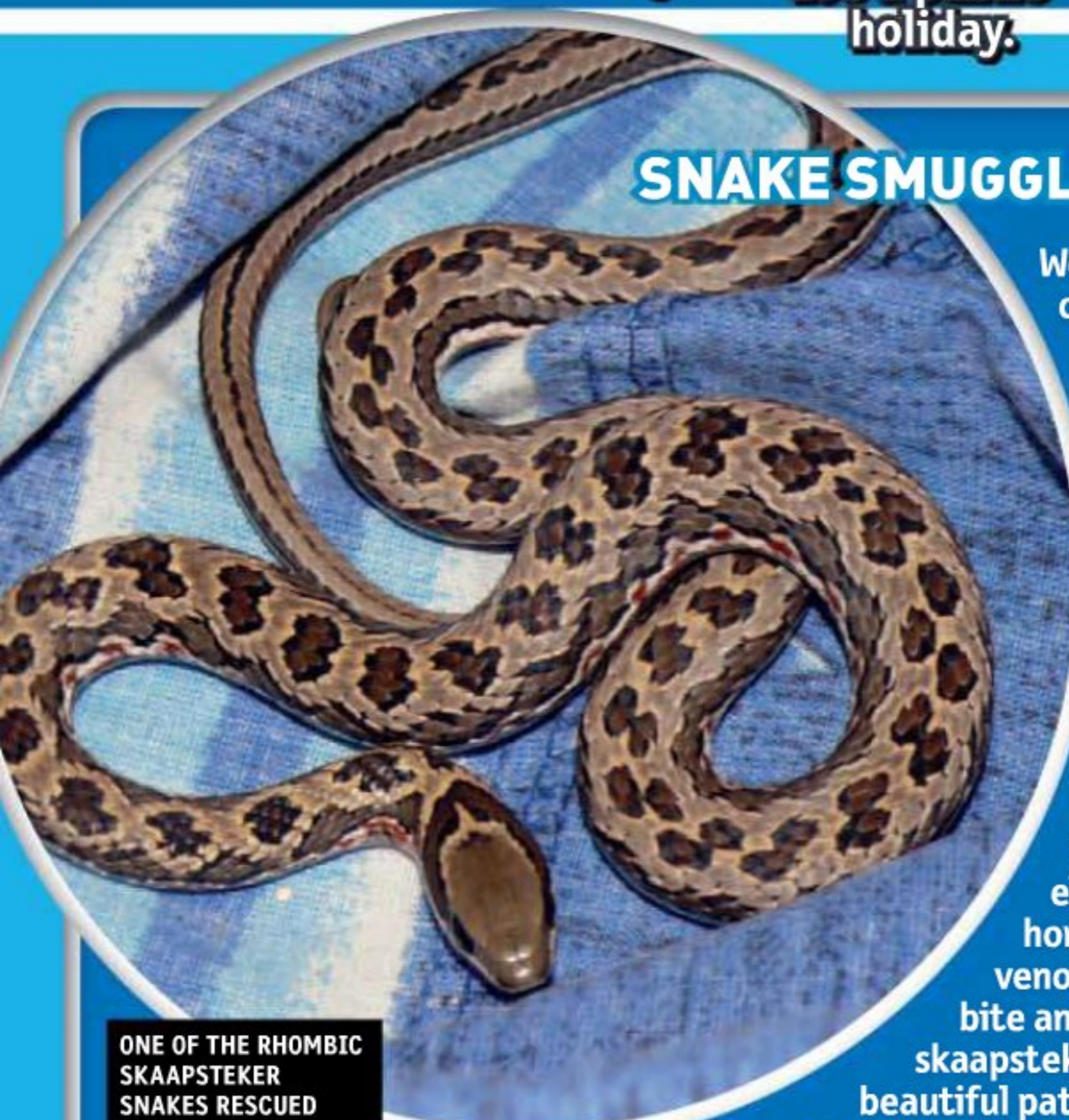
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Spring Equinox

International Rhino Day

Heritage Day. It's a public holiday.

Last Day of Third Term



SNAKE SMUGGLERS CAUGHT!

West Coast National Park officials from SANParks recently caught two foreign smugglers who were trapping indigenous snakes and geckos in the Cape.

They craftily hid the snakes in their car and were caught red-handed at the exit of the West Coast National Park.

Their loot included thirteen geckos and eleven snakes, like horned adders, which are venomous with a serious bite and the gentle rhombic skaapestekers, which have a very beautiful pattern all the way down their body. Rhombic skaapestekers are

ONE OF THE RHOMBIC SKAAPSTEKER SNAKES RESCUED FROM THE CROOKS.

found naturally in grassland and fynbos in the Western and Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga. Horned adders live mostly in the dry areas of the Northern Cape and Namibia.

These snakes are native to Southern Africa and are legally protected worldwide. The smugglers had planned to hide them in their luggage and fly them out of the country where they would trade them on the illegal international market for rare species. The Cape Nature Crime Unit confiscated all the animals and the smugglers were sentenced to five years in jail or a fine of R100 000 each. Serves them right!

Waterways

Imagine stepping out of your front door and into a boat to get to school. You could if you lived in Venice, Italy! It's built on lots of little islands in a shallow lagoon. In the old centre there are no roads, so you have to criss-cross the islands by bridge or go by boat.

Every year on the first Sunday of September the *Regata Storica*, the most famous of the city's festivals, takes place. There is an historical flotilla of boats built in the styles of the 16th century, like the *gondolino* and the *mascareta*. Then follows a rowing race with hundreds of locals and tourists cheering wildly on the canal banks.



DID YOU KNOW?

Waves caused by speeding boats on the canals in Venice have eroded the banks of the river so much that the city has put in camera traps to catch speeders!

JAN BRAAI | JAN BRAAI; SXC.HU STOCKEXCHANGE (VENICE); SNAKE (CARL NORTIER SANPARKS)

WIN

COMPETITION

PARTY WITH ARTJAMMING

Artjamming is "paintertainment" for all ages – with friends, family, co-workers or young children.

No drawing or painting skills are needed. Let your imagination take hold of the paintbrushes.



WIN a great party for ten kids! The competition is open only to residents of Johannesburg and Cape Town. Tell us in a few words who your favourite artist is and e-mail your entry to breakingnews@artjamming.co.za. Include your name, age, contact details and province.

Find out more at www.artjamming.co.za.

WIN FLIK FLAK WATCHES

The new *Sola Neve* watch for girls is the must-have accessory for the queen of the playground.

The *Shaped Blue* watch for boys is a trendy, sporty watch fit to face any challenge and keep up with the most daring adventurer.

Five girls and five boys will each win a *Sola Neve* and *Shaped Blue* watch from *Flik Flak*, a Swatch Group brand.

SMS "NGKFlikFlak" followed by your name, surname and age to 33970. Visit www.flikflak.com if you want to know more.



RECYCLE AND WIN

September is *Clean-Up* month in South Africa. *Plastics SA* (an organisation that represents the entire plastics industry) wants to teach people the importance of cleaning up and recycling.

Every year they host a hugely popular competition for schools. This year there are lots of exciting prizes up for grabs, including a fun-filled weekend

with a prize-giving in Cape Town for learners and their teachers in October 2012.

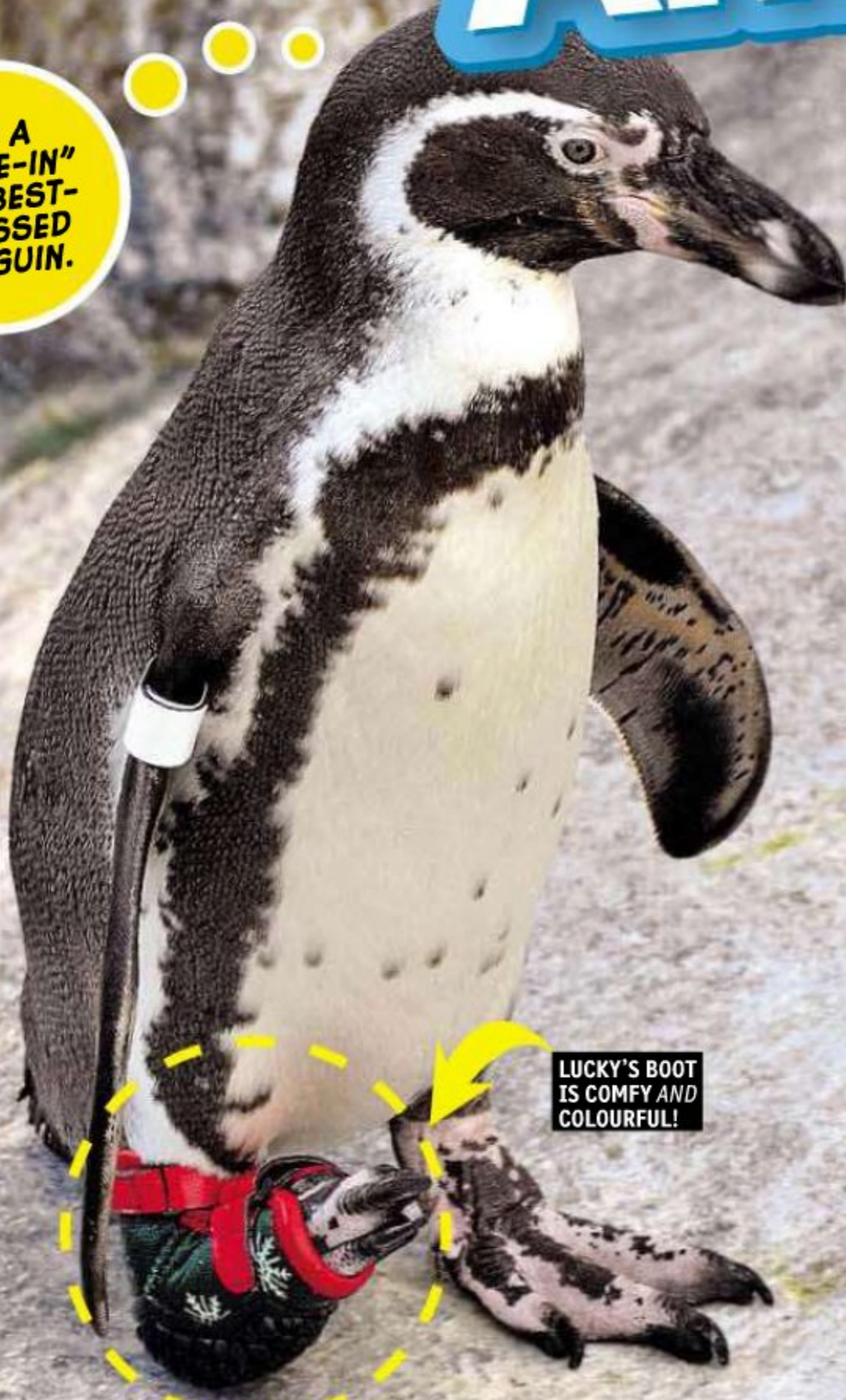
You will find entry forms, terms and conditions and information about recycling at www.plasticsinfo.co.za.



* SEE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ON PAGE 49.

Amazing Animals

I'M A "SHOE-IN" FOR BEST-DRESSED PENGUIN.



LUCKY'S BOOT IS COMFY AND COLOURFUL!



THIS BOOT STAYS ON IN THE WATER.

BOOT

HELPS

PENGUIN

WALK



Santa Barbara, California, America

Lucky the Humboldt penguin isn't trying to make a fashion statement with his snazzy-looking boot. The bird's fancy footwear helps him walk.

When Lucky was one month old, his keepers at the Santa Barbara Zoo noticed his leg wasn't growing properly. He walked with a limp and developed painful sores on his foot. So the penguin's caretakers asked a shoe company to make him a boot that would cushion his foot and prevent him from getting sores.

"Lucky's health immediately improved once he started wearing the shoe," says Rachel Ritchason, the zoo's assistant curator of birds. The shoe wraps around his foot and ankle with Velcro and it's waterproof so Lucky can wear it while swimming. "Now Lucky acts just like the other penguins," Rachel says. And he has some serious style to boot. — John Micklos, Jr.

DEER GUARDS GOOSE

Buffalo, New York, America

Craig Cygan was baffled. For a week he'd noticed a male whitetail deer hovering by an urn at the historic cemetery he patrols. Whenever he came near, the deer blocked his path. Finally, Craig saw what the deer was guarding: a Canada goose and her eggs!

Normally Canada goose parents protect their nests together. But this bird was missing her mate and her eggs were in danger of being eaten by predators. "The deer came and helped out," Craig says.

Over the next month the buck kept the eggs safe. When raccoons crept toward the nest looking for a snack, the deer drove them away. When a flock of crows swooped in to snatch the eggs, the buck jumped up and stomped his hooves, scattering the birds.

After the goslings had hatched, the deer left. Experts don't know why the buck turned bodyguard. "Animals sometimes do things we can't explain," says Kevin J. McGowan, an animal behaviourist at Cornell University. But everyone can agree that this buck was a real dear. — *Aline Alexander Newman*



HOW DO I TURN OFF THE FLASH?

Deer and Goose

Lucky

Tiger Shark

SHARK SWIPES CAMERA

The Bahamas

Who knew a fish would want to give photography a shot? A group of underwater photographers was snapping pictures of tiger sharks. One of the sharks drew closer, grabbed a camera which costs R107 000 from a diver with its teeth and glided off.

"I couldn't believe what had happened," says photographer Karin Brussaard, another diver on the trip. The not-so-sneaky shark thief soon dropped his loot and the film equipment was recovered. So what caused the shark to pull off this heist? "It may have seen the camera as an unfamiliar object and wanted to examine it," says Marie Levin of Princeton University's Shark Research Institute. Wonder where this guy was planning to getting his film developed? — *John Micklos, Jr.*

EXTREME WEIRDNESS

from
AROUND
the WORLD



weird-o-meter

POST GOES SWIMMING

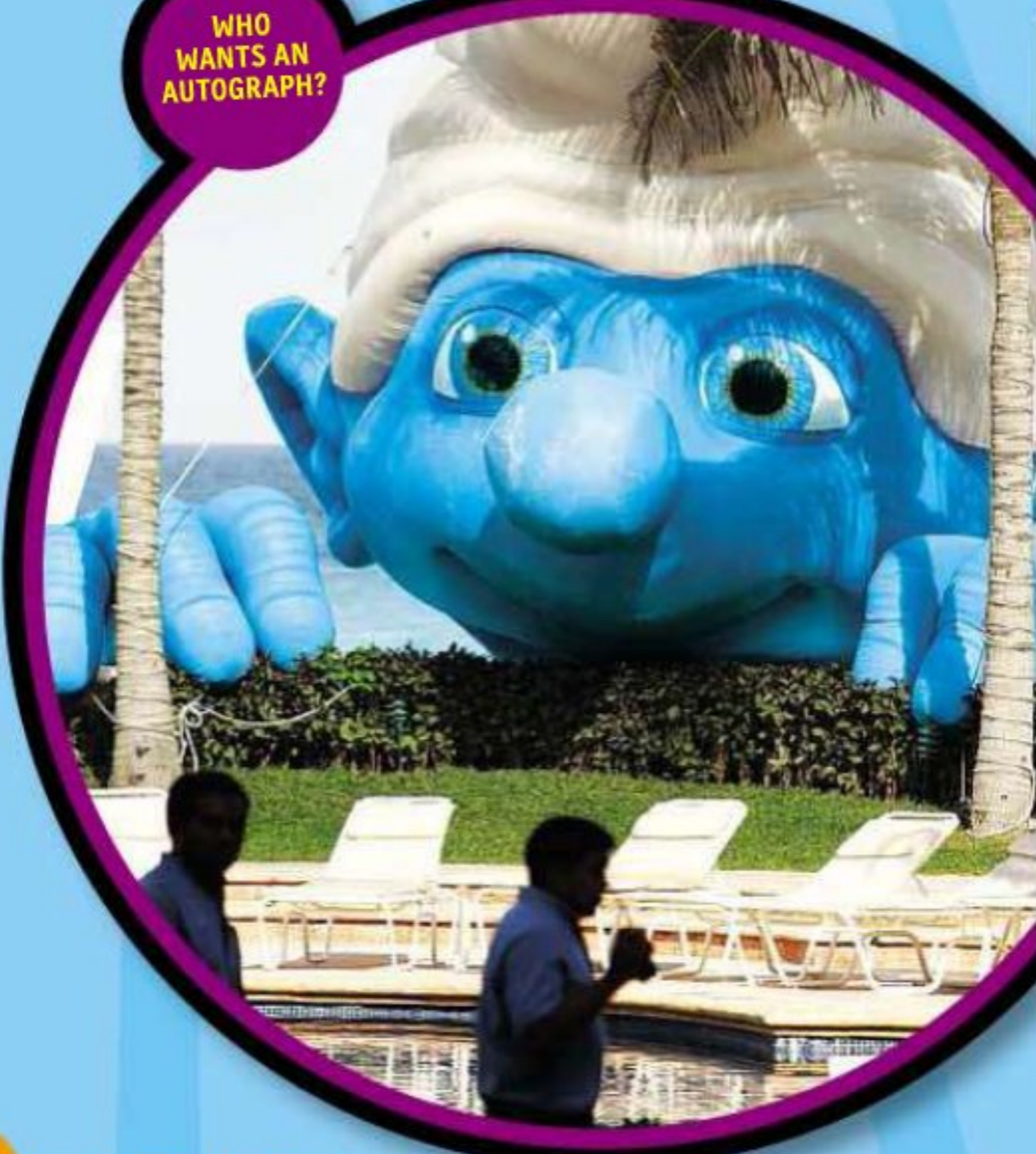
WHAT Underwater postbox

WHERE Susami Bay, Japan

DETAILS Collecting letters from this postbox requires more than a postbag – you need a wet suit and an oxygen tank. Located about 10 metres beneath the sea, the underwater post drop can hold about 200 waterproof postcards sent by divers. We hope sharks never come looking for a food delivery.

CAN YOU BUY STAMPS WITH SEASHELLS?

WHO WANTS AN AUTOGRAPH?



weird-o-meter

BLUE GIANT LANDS

WHAT Inflated Smurf

WHERE Cancún, Mexico

DETAILS This dude is a real airhead. The huge inflated Smurf – which was as tall as a telephone pole – appeared at a summer movie festival. The big guy was tied to trees so he wouldn't blow away. Good thing the Smurf couldn't move: a game of tag with this colossal creature would be *much* too easy.

OUR ALARM SYSTEM NEVER SHUTS OFF



weird-o-meter

SHEEP TURN ORANGE

WHAT Dyed sheep

WHERE Devon, England

DETAILS Baaa-d news for sheep snatchers: After 200 of his ewes were stolen, a farmer decided to turn the rest of his flock orange using a nontoxic dye. Thanks to these noticeable fleeces, sheep thieves will think twice before trying to pull the wool over anyone's eyes.

TEXT BY JEN RINI AND MOLLY MARCOT. REUTERS / STR OLD (POSTBOX); REUTERS / VICTOR RUIZ GARCIA (SMURF); GETTY IMAGES (SHEEP)

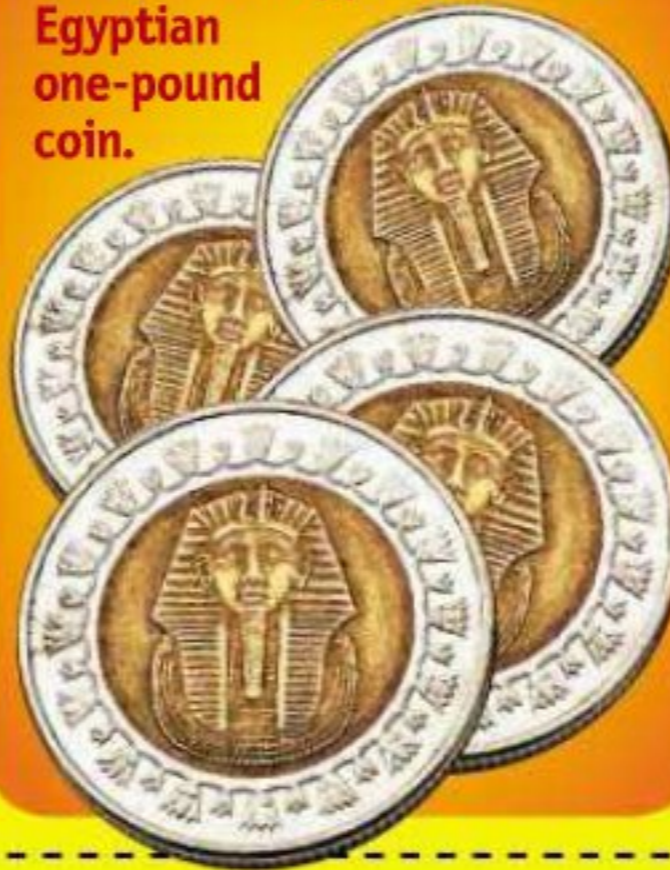
BY KRISTIN BAIRD RATTINI

ALL About MONEY!



THE \$20 NOTE IS COUNTERFEITED MORE OFTEN THAN ANY OTHER AMERICAN PAPER MONEY.

KING TUT appears on the Egyptian one-pound coin.



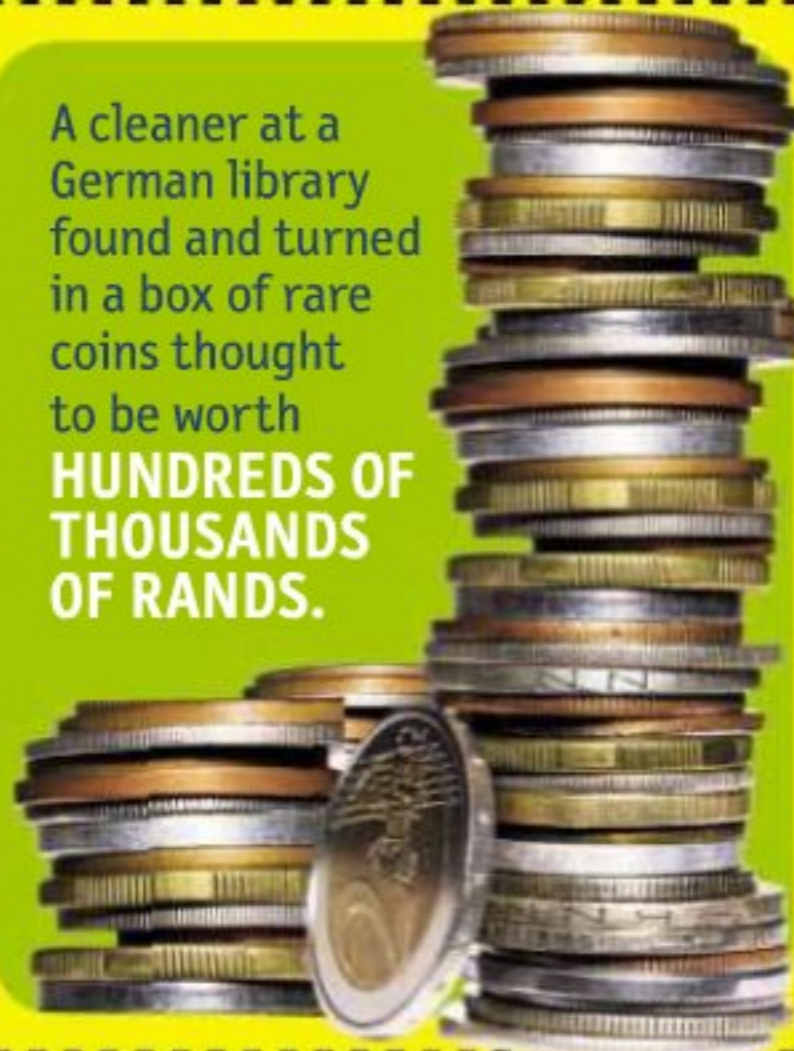
GUATEMALA'S CURRENCY IS NAMED THE QUETZAL AFTER ITS NATIONAL BIRD.

“SOUTH AFRICAN RESERVE BANK” IS PRINTED IN ENGLISH AND TWO MORE OF OUR 11 OFFICIAL LANGUAGES ON THE R10, R20, R50, R100 AND R200. ON THE R10, FOR EXAMPLE, IT APPEARS IN AFRIKAANS AND SWATI.

IN INDIA THE SLANG TERM FOR THE AMOUNT OF 100 000 RUPEES IS PETI, OR SUITCASE. YOU MIGHT NEED ONE TO CARRY THAT MUCH MONEY!



A cleaner at a German library found and turned in a box of rare coins thought to be worth HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF RANDS.



A COLLECTION IN THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION HAS 750 000 PIECES OF PAPER MONEY.



DURING CHINESE NEW YEAR MANY FAMILIES MAKE OFFERINGS TO THE CHINESE GOD OF WEALTH, CAI-SHEN.

CANADIAN BANKNOTES HAVE RAISED DOT PATTERNS FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED PEOPLE.



MONEY TIP!

ANY TIME YOU BUY SOMETHING ON SALE, PUT WHAT YOU SAVED IN YOUR PIGGY BANK.



© STEVE STOCK / ALAMY (\$20 BILL); © MOHAMED OSAMA / DREAMSTIME (KING TUT); THOMAS MARENT / GETTY IMAGES (QUETZAL); © DANIEL KRYLOV / DREAMSTIME (SUITCASE); BRIAN HAGIWARA (STACKS OF COINS); PNC / GETTY IMAGES (SMITHSONIAN); © DOUG HUGHES (CAI-SHEN); USED WITH PERMISSION OF THE BANK OF CANADA (DOTS); KELLEY MILLER / NGS STAFF (PIGGY BANK)

BY CATHY LU AND FIONA THOMSON

COOL inventions



FLOATING HOLIDAY

From a shiplike hotel to a research station for studying ocean animals, the Utopia can be many things – but it's mostly just cool. This large floating world rests on four legs that extend and float about 15 metres below the surface. These legs minimise how much of the vessel touches the water, reducing movement caused by waves.

When it's not a home for marine biologists, it can accommodate tourists. Take a helicopter, boat, or mini-submarine, then lounge in luxurious guest suites, pools and restaurants. There's even a cinema. But the best part is the top deck, where a 360-degree observatory high above the water's surface will make you feel as if you're on top of the world. You're floating in the air – not the ocean.

SUNSHINE IN A JAR

Surprise your friends around the braai with this cool lamp in a jar. As the sun sets the glass is filled with a warm glow of light. Two South African designers, Ockert van Heerden and John Bexley, came up with this environmentally friendly idea of fitting a solar panel to an ordinary glass jar. The solar panel powers a LED light that keeps going for about six hours. Way to "glow"!



BMTNIGEL GEE YACHT ISLAND DESIGN / REX / REX USA (UTOPIA); JAMES GARAGHTY (JAR); COURTESY APOSTOL TNOKOVSKI (E-BALL, BOTH)

BALL-SHAPED COMPUTER

Have a ball watching movies, surfing the internet and video-chatting with friends. The E-Ball concept packs an entire computer – from mouse to brains – inside a 15-centimetre sphere. Different parts pop out of the ball. Instead of a screen, the E-Ball contains a tiny projector that comes out of the top and displays the image on a wall or piece of paper. For typing, lasers project an image of a keyboard on to a table, using sensors to translate finger taps into letters. When you're done, fold up the E-Ball, stick it into your backpack and roll it out at your next destination.



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
KIDS

RUN FOR THE PLANET

HELP NG KIDS BREAK A GUINNESS WORLD RECORD!

We need
5 000 people
to set a running
record, so ask
everyone you know to
participate!



RUN FOR THE PLANET TO STAY HEALTHY. HERE'S HOW:

What To break the record for the most number of people running or walking 100 metres in a 24 hour period.

How Pledge to participate on kids.nationalgeographic.com/run-for-the-planet/. Download your record-breaker's pack, including official rules and "fill-in-the-blank" verification statements for Guinness World Records' documentation. You can do it alone or organise an event with friends and family. But remember to fill in the documentation, so you'll be counted! For more information and to let us know about your event, contact Lisel Daniels at lisel.daniels@media24.com or call her on 021 443 5039.

When You need to do your 100-metre run any time between 6 p.m. on Friday 26 October 2012 and 6 p.m. on Saturday 27 October 2012.

MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW THE RULES SO THAT YOUR PARTICIPATION COUNTS!

Go online to pledge to participate and get official rules.
kids.nationalgeographic.com/run-for-the-planet/

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- Free awesome fun digital pack with pledge!
- Participation certificate!



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

SUPER SNAKES

Snakes are **masters of disguise**, skilled hunters and **champion eaters**. More than **2 500 species** of snakes **slither around the world**. Check out these **surprising** facts about **snakes**.

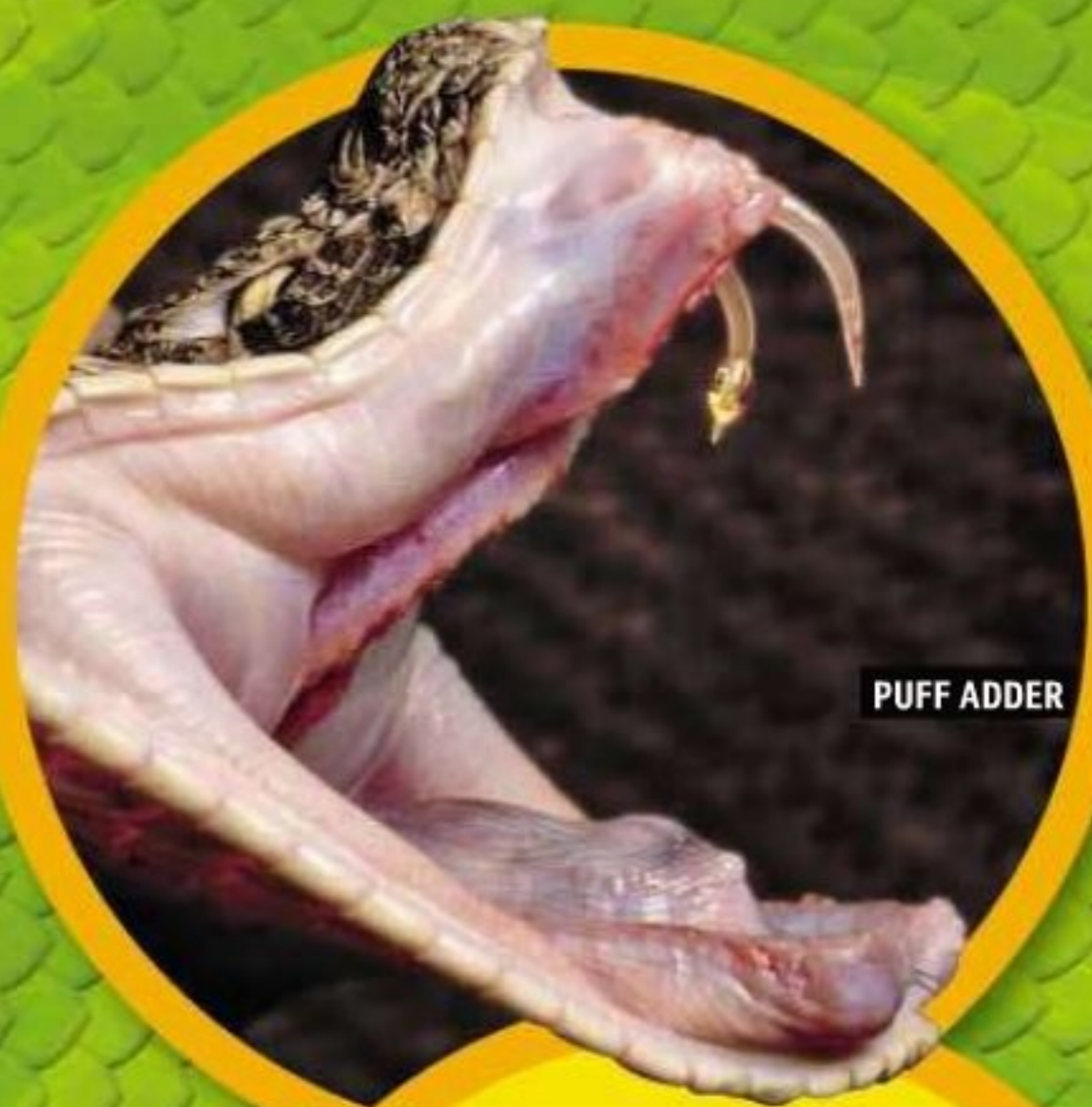
BY CHANA STIEFEL

SNAKES CHANGE THEIR SKIN.

Snakes outgrow their skin. Every few months most start rubbing against the ground or tree branches. Starting at the mouth, a snake slithers out of its too-tight skin. Like a sock, the skin comes off inside out and the snake has a fresh, shiny look. Nice makeover.



DIONE RAT SNAKE



PUFF ADDER

SNAKE VENOM CAN KILL.

By sinking two hollow, pointy fangs into their prey, many snakes inject venom to paralyse or kill victims before devouring them. Africa's black mamba is thought to be one of the world's deadliest snakes. Up to four metres long and as skinny as a pool cue, the black mamba strikes fast. Two drops of its venom can kill a human. It's a snake to be respected – from a distance.



AMAZON TREE BOA

SNAKES SMELL WITH THEIR TONGUES.

Smell that mouse? A snake uses its tongue to help it smell. It flicks its long, forked tongue to pick up chemical molecules from the air, ground or water. The tongue carries the smelly molecules back to two small openings called the Jacobson's organ in the roof of the snake's mouth. Cells in the Jacobson's organ analyse the scent. *Mmm, lunch!*



EMERALD TREE BOA

CONSTRUCTORS GIVE WICKED HUGS.

Boas, anacondas, pythons and other snakes called constrictors are amazing squeezers. This kind of snake wraps its muscular body around a victim and squeezes until the animal suffocates. The twisted talent comes from muscles attached to 200 or more vertebrae in a snake's backbone. Humans are born with only 33 vertebrae.



GREEN TREE PYTHON

SNAKES "SEE" HEAT.

Some snakes – such as pythons, rattlesnakes and copperheads – can't see well and use other senses to find prey. These creatures have openings called pit holes in front of their eyes. The pits sense the heat given off by warm-blooded prey. Their heat vision allows the vipers to track prey day or night.

SOME SNAKES CAN DISAPPEAR.

Snakes are great hunters, but often they're the prey. Birds, raccoons, foxes and other animals have a taste for snakes. One way to hide: camouflage. Many snakes sport colours and patterns that allow them to blend in with their surroundings. A green tree python looks like a vine when it coils itself around a branch. A yellow eyelash viper blends in with flowers and a rainbow boa disappears on gnarled tree stumps. *Poof, gone.*

BRAZILIAN RAINBOW BOA

VENOM Can Be Good For You!

Scientists have discovered the same poison that causes awful symptoms – and even death – in people who have been bitten by a venomous snake can be turned into medicines. Here are a few examples.

COPPERHEAD

SYMPTOMS IF BITTEN:

swelling, difficulty breathing, low blood pressure, bleeding

USED TO TREAT:

breast cancer



WESTERN RATTLESNAKE

SYMPTOMS IF BITTEN:

muscle spasms, swelling, low blood pressure, vomiting, difficulty breathing, bleeding

USED TO TREAT:

heart attacks



GABOON VIPER

SYMPTOMS IF BITTEN:

cardiac arrest, fever, internal haemorrhaging, blistering, swelling

USED TO TREAT:

strokes

SNAKES LIVED WITH DINOSAURS.

Snakes slithered on to the scene more than 100 million years ago, when dinosaurs still roamed Earth. More primitive snakes, such as boas and pythons, have traces of hind leg bones in their skeleton. This is evidence that the snakes evolved from lizard-like animals with legs. Over time, snakes lost their limbs. Their advantage? With its body on the ground, a snake can sense the vibrations that tell it when food – or danger – is nearby.

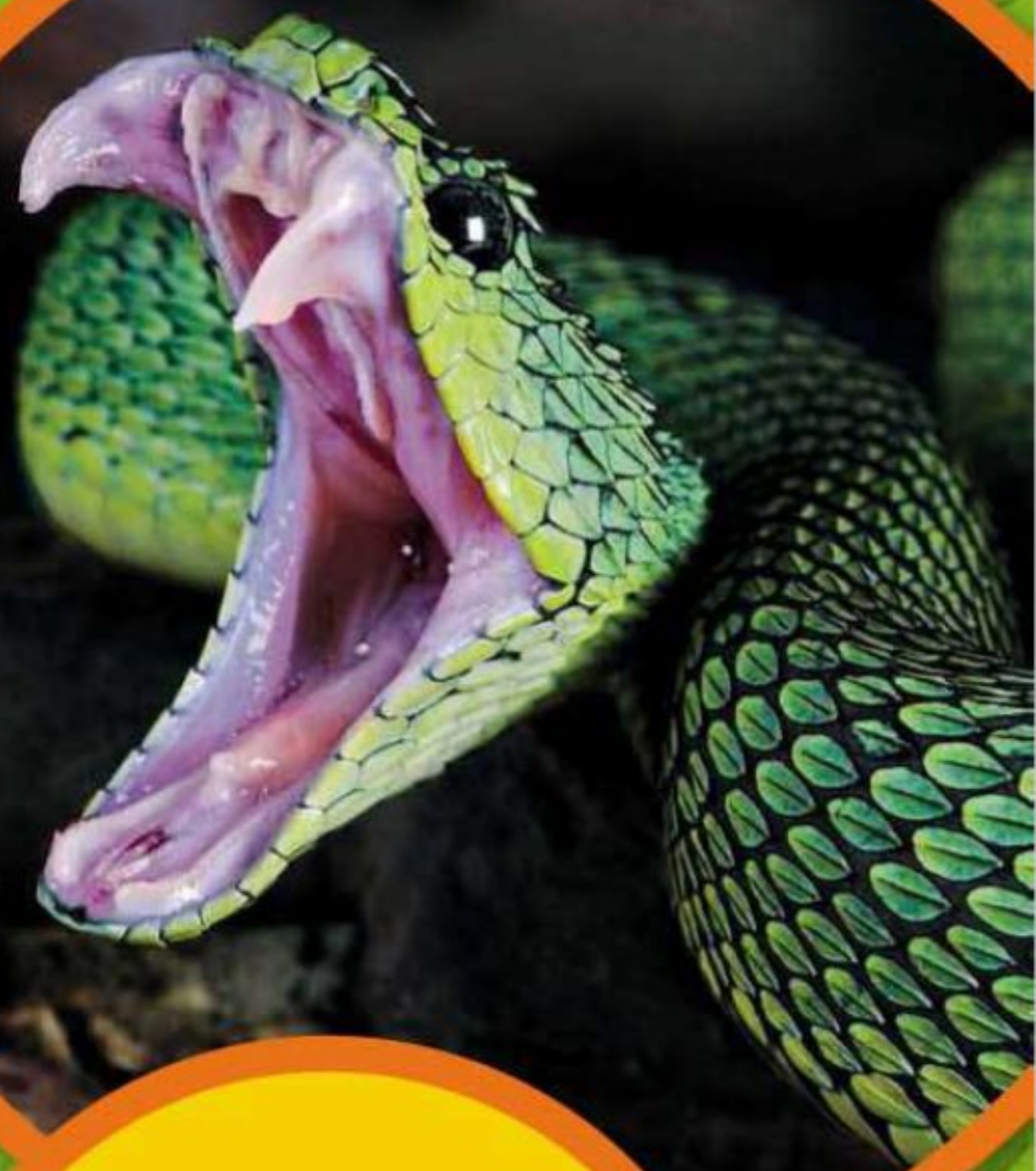
SNAKES CAN'T HEAR.

Snakes don't have external ears to hear sound waves in the air. Instead, bones in their lower jaw pick up vibrations in the ground or water. The vibes trigger signals in the snakes' brains, which are received as messages. "Juicy mouse coming closer!"

SNAKES DON'T CHEW.

Ever feel so hungry you could swallow a meal in one gulp? A snake can! Its lower jawbone is hinged very loosely in the back, so the snake can open superwide. The snake's teeth curve backward and are designed to grab prey and move it down its throat. Loosely attached ribs and elastic skin expand as the food moves down. Boas and other huge snakes can even eat goats and deer. After a big meal snakes can go weeks without food.

SEDGE VIPER



VINE SNAKE



BRAZILIAN PIT VIPER

SYMPTOMS IF BITTEN: tissue death, bleeding, kidney failure

USED TO TREAT: high blood pressure



INDIAN COBRA

SYMPTOMS IF BITTEN: swelling, bruising, paralysis, blistering, respiratory failure

USED TO TREAT: arthritis

KING COBRA

SYMPTOMS IF BITTEN: drowsiness, difficulty breathing, limb paralysis, convulsions, headache, loss of consciousness

USED TO TREAT: neurological conditions



AFRICAN SAW-SCALED VIPER

SYMPTOMS IF BITTEN: blistering, haemorrhaging, tissue death

USED TO TREAT: heart attacks



CHIPMUNK

Tiny chipmunks lose their mother but get a second chance.

BY KITSON JAZYNKA

After waiting days for their mother to return, four Townsend's chipmunk babies claw their way out of a shallow burrow. Weak from hunger, they emerge from under a flower bed next to a house and squeal for their mother. They don't know she's been trapped and relocated, never to return.

It's late May. The homeowner hears the cries. Realising she has separated a family, the woman is horrified and delivers the starving, two-week-old chipmunks to PAWS, a wildlife rehabilitation centre in nearby Lynnwood in Washington, America.

A staff member at PAWS pulls the limp babies from the cardboard box and places them on a heating pad for an examination.

The babies weigh less than 20 grams. "They were in bad shape – far too young to survive without their mother's milk and body heat," says PAWS naturalist Kevin Mack.

PAWS staff rush to stabilise the delicate, dehydrated patients with fluids. But the time away from their mother has been too hard. Only two babies survive.

TOUGH STRUGGLE

The remaining two chipmunks eat their first meal, a special fluid fed through a small syringe with a rubber tip. Feeding such tiny creatures is tricky. Too much food too fast could mean death for the chipmunks. They are fed six small meals a day – a milk substitute similar to their mother's milk.

They eat well, but the lack of food and water has put their bodies under so much stress that they develop other problems. The day after their arrival the male

develops an eye infection. Three days later the female starts walking in circles and tilting her head because of a painful ear infection. But antibiotics cure their health problems within a few weeks.

By the time they're about six weeks old (the age a wild chipmunk would normally leave its mother), the babies complete the switch from milk to solid food. They're moved into a larger indoor enclosure with branches to climb.

A chipmunk lives for about three years.

READY FOR THE WILD

By mid-July the confident, agile chipmunks race around their enclosure, holding their tails straight up for balance. They have full coats of striped nutbrown fur. Now PAWS staff move them into a very large outdoor area where the chipmunks can continue to prepare for a return to the wild.

They eat so many seeds, fresh leaf buds, berries and native hazelnuts that their weight triples. Now each chipmunk weighs about as much as a stack of ten R5 coins.

FINDING A NEW HOME

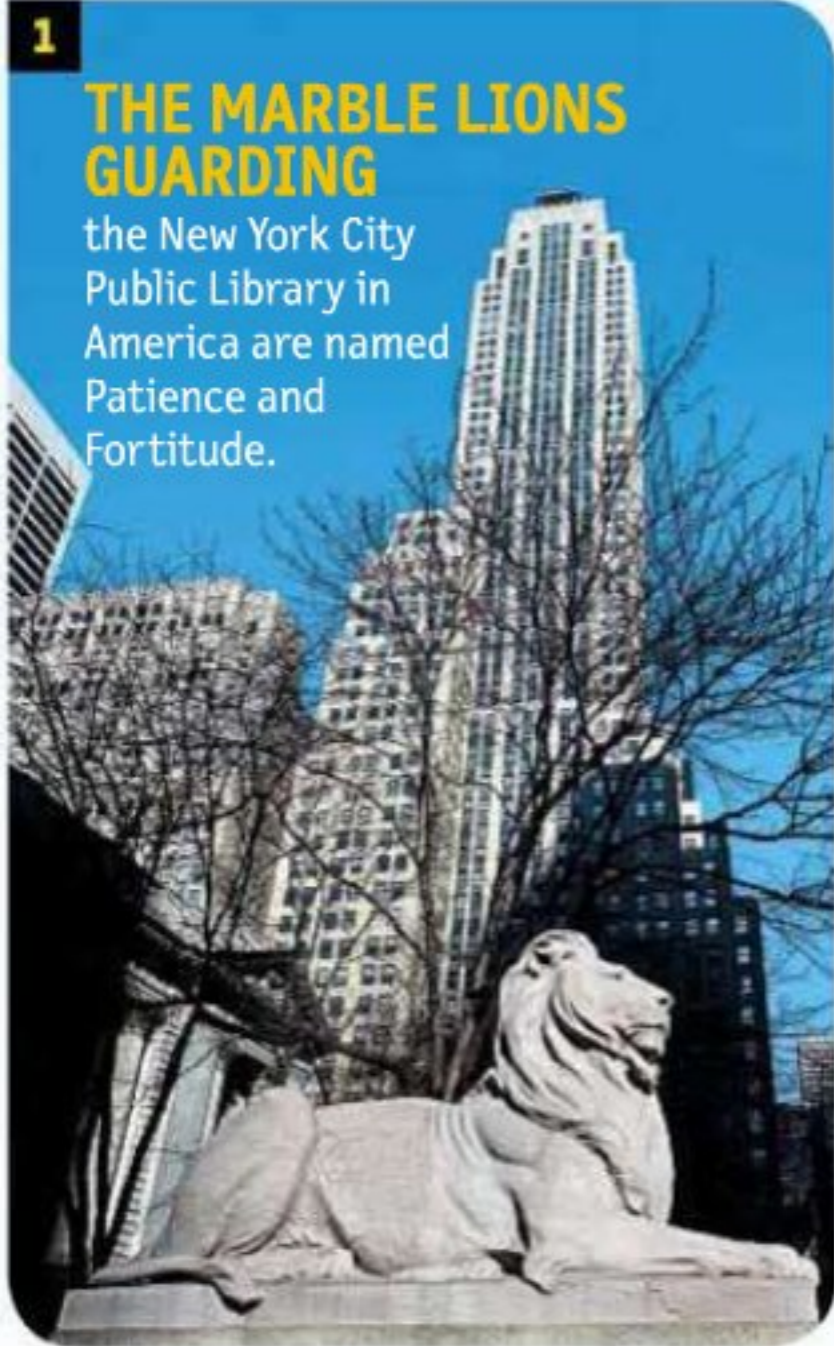
PAWS staff work hard to keep the chipmunks wary of people so they will remain wild. While the baby chipmunks were their patients, staff did not talk to, pet or cuddle them. Kevin thinks they are ready for release. In late July he chooses a large park less than a kilometre from where the babies were found. It has a stream and plenty of food sources, such as wild roses, hazelnut trees and Douglas firs. He loads the young chipmunks into an animal carrier and they travel to their new home.

At the park a PAWS volunteer sets the carrier on the ground and opens the door. "The volunteer didn't even get a good look at the chipmunks when they were released," Kevin says. "They were just little streaks running into the bushes. We were thrilled that these two chipmunks pulled through and made it back to the wild."

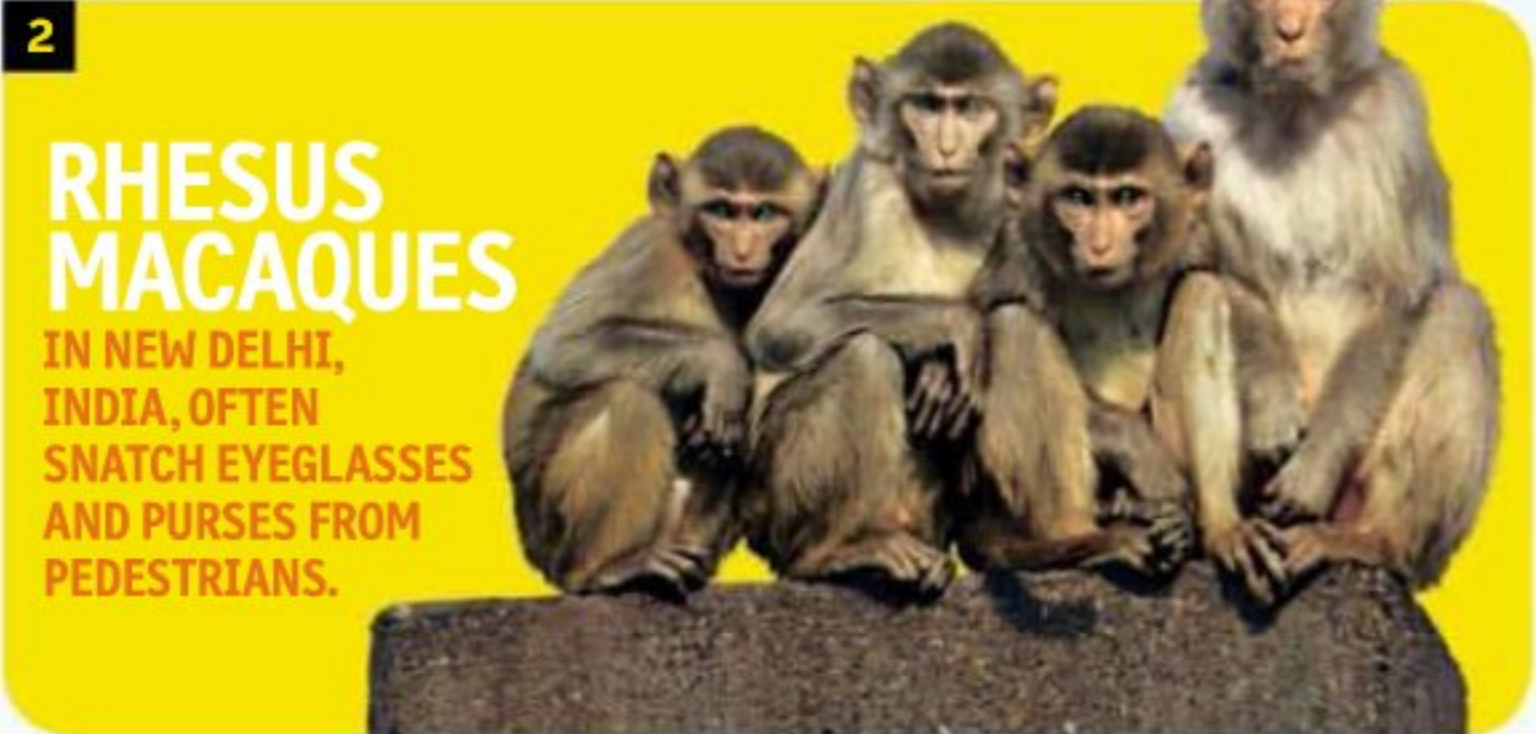
There are 25 species of chipmunks.

GETTING STRONGER





1 **THE MARBLE LIONS GUARDING** the New York City Public Library in America are named Patience and Fortitude.



2 **RHESUS MACAQUES** IN NEW DELHI, INDIA, OFTEN SNATCH EYEGASSES AND PURSES FROM PEDESTRIANS.



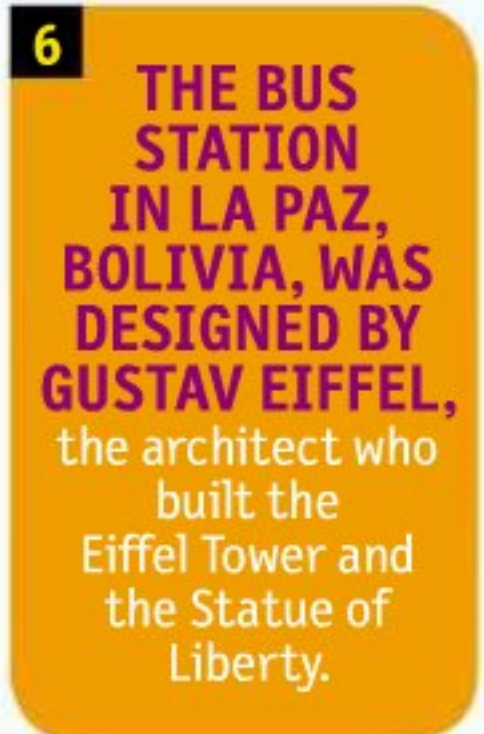
3 **SOME POLICE OFFICERS IN CAIRO, EGYPT,** patrol the pyramids and other tourist spots **ON CAMELBACK.**



4 **WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND,** is the largest capital city to greet each new day and year first.



5 Surrounded by Italy, **VATICAN CITY** is both a city and **THE WORLD'S SMALLEST COUNTRY.** It's about the same size as **A GOLF COURSE.**



6 **THE BUS STATION IN LA PAZ, BOLIVIA,** WAS DESIGNED BY **GUSTAV EIFFEL,** the architect who built the Eiffel Tower and the Statue of Liberty.

30 COOL THINGS ABOUT



7 **IN CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA,** THOUSANDS OF EASTERN GREY **KANGAROOS** OFTEN INVADE THE CITY TO DRINK WATER AND MUNCH GRASS.



8 **A mall in the desert city of Dubai, United Arab Emirates,** **MAKES SNOW** FOR AN **INDOOR SKI RESORT.**



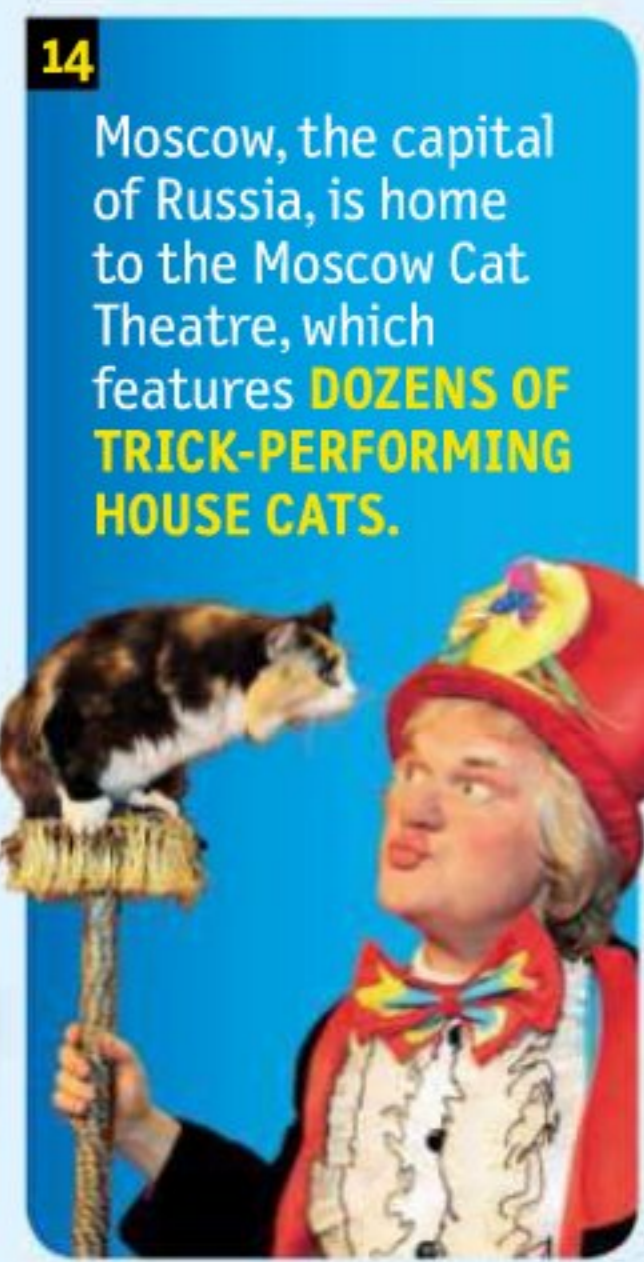
9 Every night in Austin, America, more than **1,5 MILLION BATS** fly out from under a bridge to eat insects.



11 **FLIGHTS AT THE AIRPORT** in Manila in the Philippines, have been cancelled on New Year's Eve because of smoke from the **MILLIONS OF FIREWORKS AND FIRECRACKERS** people fire off.



12 **BATH, ENGLAND,** REALLY DID GET ITS NAME FROM **BATHS—HEATED POOLS BUILT BY THE ROMANS** SOME **2 000 YEARS AGO.**



14 Moscow, the capital of Russia, is home to the Moscow Cat Theatre, which features **DOZENS OF TRICK-PERFORMING HOUSE CATS.**

10 **IN REYKJAVÍK, ICELAND,** HEAT FOR HOMES AND BUSINESSES COMES ENTIRELY FROM **GEOTHERMAL ENERGY** CREATED BY **UNDERGROUND VOLCANIC SOURCES.**



13 **Movie tickets cost about R205 in TOKYO, JAPAN,** one of the world's most expensive cities.

© ALEXANDRE FAGUNDES DE FAGUNDES / DREAMSTIME (1); © BLICKWINKEL / ALAMY (2); © JACK SULLIVAN / ALAMY (3); © LUMINITA LUPU / DREAMSTIME (4); © GEORGEHOPKINS / DREAMSTIME (5); © ARCO IMAGES GMBH / ALAMY (7); © EXACTOSTOCK / SUPERSTOCK (8); TALKE PHOTOGRAPHY / GETTY IMAGES (9); © IGORKOV / DREAMSTIME (11); © CUBOIMAGES SRL / ALAMY (12); © TAL REVIVO / ALAMY (13); JENNIFER MITCHELL / SPLASH NEWS / NEWS.COM (14);

15 People have lived in Beirut, Lebanon, for nearly 5 000 years – longer than in any other current capital city.




16 **IN AMSTERDAM, THE CAPITAL OF THE NETHERLANDS, NEARLY HALF OF ALL WORKERS CYCLE TO WORK.**




17 San Francisco's City Hall in California, America, stands on 530 shock absorbers the size of washing machines to protect it against earthquakes.



18 More than half of the 3,2 million people in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, are **KIDS OR TEENS.**



19 **PANAMA CITY, PANAMA,** is the only capital with a tropical rain forest in the city limits.



20 A cannon called **THE NOON GUN** is fired every day at, uh, noon in Cape Town, South Africa.

21 There are 32 kilometres of streets, shops, restaurants and hotels underneath Montreal, Canada.

22 **MEXICO CITY, MEXICO,** has more than **150 MUSEUMS.**

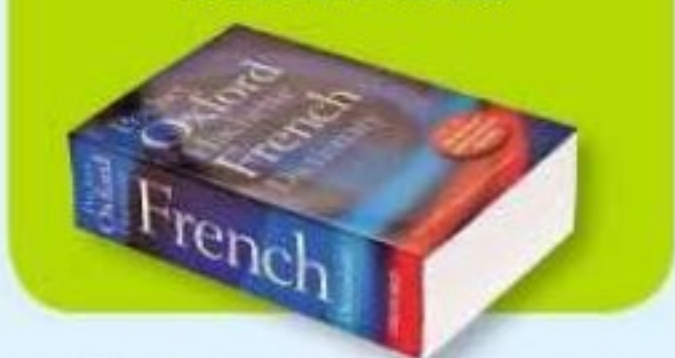


CITIES

23 **A DRAGON STATUE BREATHES FIRE** near Wawel Royal Castle in Kraków, Poland, where a mythical dragon used to live.



24 **MORE FRENCH-SPEAKING PEOPLE LIVE IN KINSHASA, THE CAPITAL OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, THAN IN PARIS.**



25 **ISTANBUL, TURKEY,** is the only major city on two continents: **ASIA AND EUROPE.**



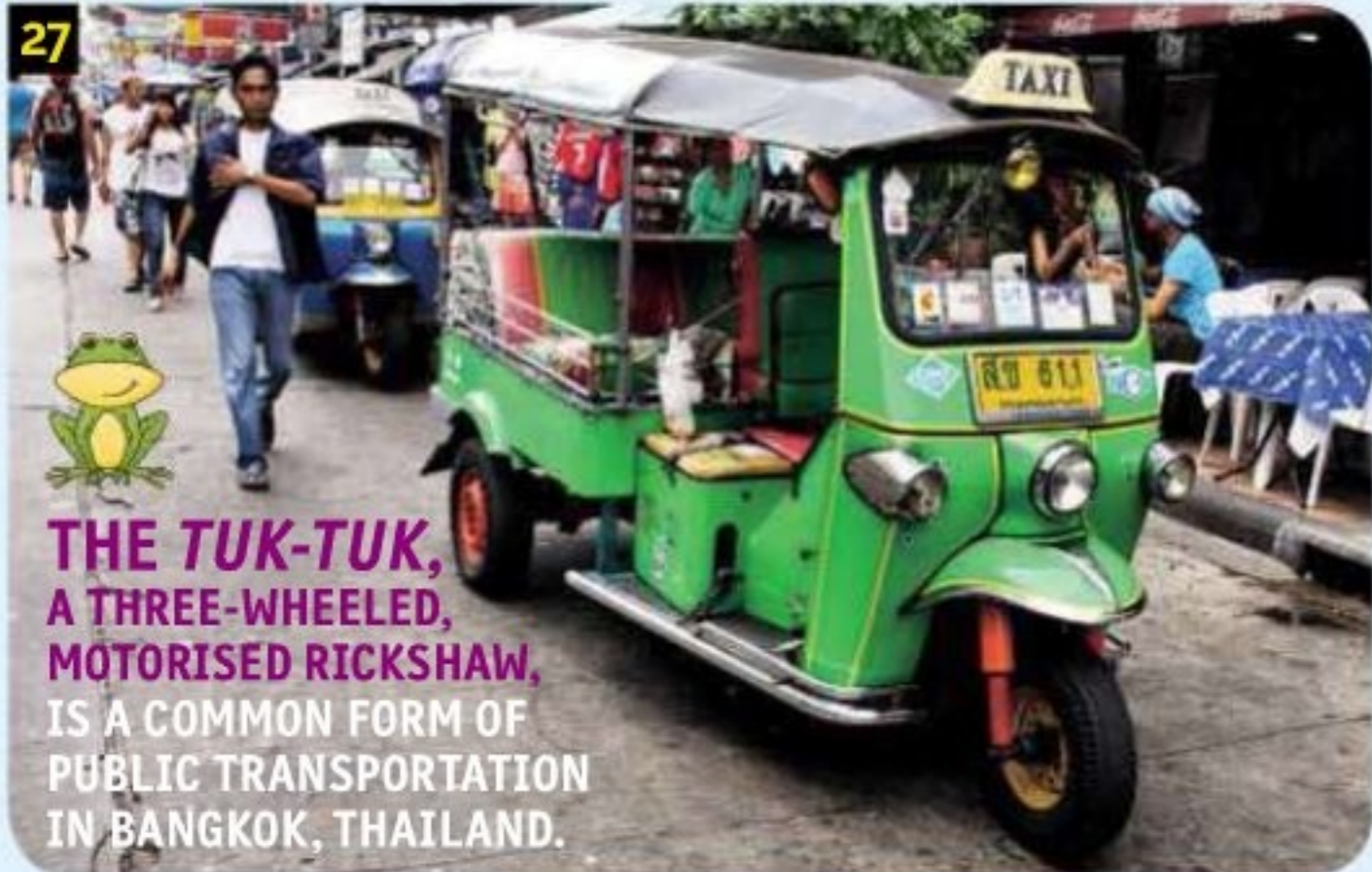
26 A city shepherd uses **30 sheep** to "mow" the parks of Curitiba, Brazil.



29 **LIMA, PERU,** gets about **12 MILLIMETRES** of rain a year.

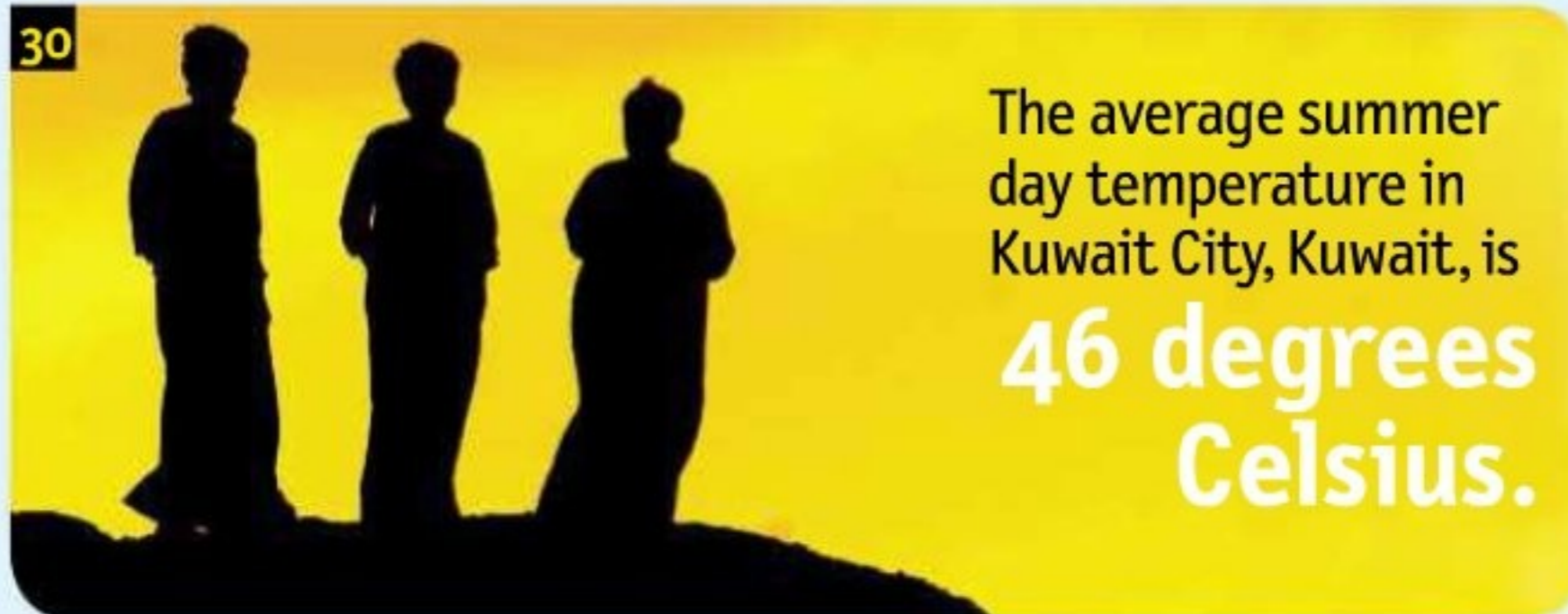


27 **THE TUK-TUK, A THREE-WHEELED, MOTORIZED RICKSHAW,** IS A COMMON FORM OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN BANGKOK, THAILAND.



28 In Beijing, China, officials sometimes **FIRE ROCKETS FILLED WITH CHEMICALS** to create clouds and rain.

30 The average summer day temperature in Kuwait City, Kuwait, is **46 degrees Celsius.**



© DIMMITRIUS / DREAMSTIME (15); © JOE ATLAS / BRAND X PICTURES / PICTUREQUEST (16); © JPLDESIGNS / DREAMSTIME (17); © ERIC NATHAN / ALAMY (18); © DIRK ERCKEN / DREAMSTIME (19); © MICHELE FALZONE / ALAMY (22); © KASIA NOWAK / ALAMY (23); © DAVID LEE / ALAMY (24); © MIKAEL DAMKIER / DREAMSTIME (25); © JULIA MCCLUNIE / DREAMSTIME (26); © TUPUNGATO / DREAMSTIME (27); © ANDRZEJ TOKARSKI / DREAMSTIME (29); © ABDULLAHUSAIN / DREAMSTIME (30)

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
KIDS

YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHERS COMPETITION


NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

READY, SET

PRIZES WORTH R110 000 AND 7TH NG KIDS YOUNG PHOTO


CATEGORIES:



People


MILAN VAN KOERT, EMPANGENI
TITLE: "MY SUSSIE"


Animals


JESSICA WOLF, PRETORIA
TITLE: DOLPHINS NEAR NATURE'S VALLEY


SASCHA MICHEL, ONDERSTEPSPOORT
TITLE: PROUDLY SOUTH AFRICAN


That's Funny!

FRANÇOIS GROBLER, CAPE TOWN
TITLE: "KOP AF OP DIE STRAND"

OPEN TO ALL
KIDS FROM THE
AGE OF
6 TO 14.

 **I love South Africa**

WHAT TO DO:

- Decide which category you want to enter, grab your camera or cell phone and take a picture of anything that catches your eye.
- You may enter one picture in each of the four categories.
- It's not about using a top-of-the-range camera, it's about capturing a unique and interesting photo that shows us how you view the world.
- Entries open on 29 August and close on 20 November 2012.

WAYS TO ENTER:

1. Turn to page 25 for entry form.
2. **Electronic:** E-mail and MMS to ypc@ngkids.co.za. Remember to write "NG KIDS YPC" in the subject line and add your photo title, category and age group.
3. **Post:** NG KIDS Young Photographers Competition, PO Box 740, Cape Town 8000.
4. **Delivery:** NG KIDS Office, Media24 Lifestyle Division, 4th Floor, ABSA Building, 4 Adderley Street, Cape Town.
5. **Online:** Ask a parent to visit the National Geographic Kids SA fan page on Facebook and click on the Young Photographers Competition tab. <https://www.facebook.com/NationalGeographicKidsSA>.

A PANEL OF EXPERTS WILL JUDGE THE ENTRIES BASED ON CREATIVITY (50 PERCENT) AND PHOTOGRAPH QUALITY (50 PERCENT). THE PANEL'S DECISION IS FINAL.

READY, SNAP!

GET UP FOR GRABS IN THE INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS COMPETITION!

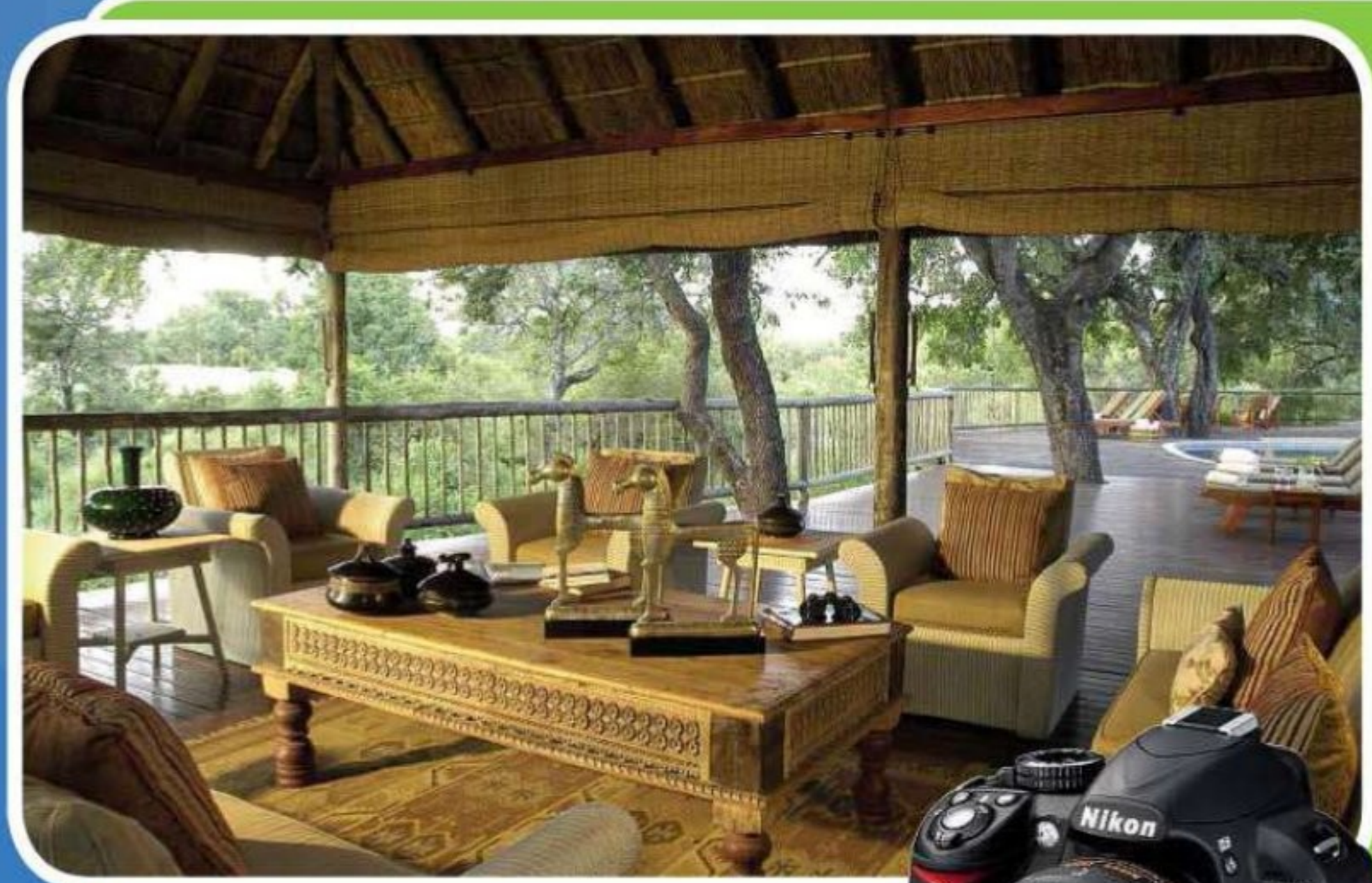


BE QUICK!
THE FIRST FIVE
ENTRANTS WILL GET
A SANDISK 8 GB
EXTREME 30MB/s
SDHC CARD.



WIN

EACH OF THE 12 FINALISTS (THREE IN EACH CATEGORY) WILL WIN A YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION TO NG KIDS, A NIKON COOLPIX S2600 CAMERA AND A PAIR OF 10X25 SPORTLITE BINOCULARS COURTESY OF NIKON, PLUS A HAMPER WITH A SANDISK 8GB EXTREME PRO 95MB/S SDHC CARD; SANDISK CLIP+ MP3 PLAYER (4GB); SANDISK MICRO SD 4GB SDHC WITH ADAPTER.



GRAND PRIZE:

The overall winner can capture amazing pictures with a fantastic Nikon D3100 Twin Lens Kit (18 - 55mm VR + 55 - 200mm VR) worth R7 000 and free camera training, a special SanDisk hamper valued at R1 499, as well as a family holiday for four (two adults and two children up to the age of fifteen) at the Bush Lodge courtesy of Sabi Sabi. Sabi Sabi is one of the premier private game reserves in the Sabi Sand Reserve, South Africa. Bush Lodge has 25 luxurious suites, and holds a special appeal for visitors and families seeking the excitement of the Big Five. Visit www.sabisabi.com for more information. Airlink is sponsoring return flights for the winner (two adults and two children) from either Cape Town, Johannesburg or Durban to Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport. The total value of the holiday is valued at R37 100. The winner will also be entered into the International Photography Contest 2012 For Kids and could win a trip to Washington DC in America to visit the National Geographic Society!



Prizes sponsored by:

AIRLINK THE REGIONAL FEEDER AIRLINE FLIES TO MORE LOCAL DESTINATIONS THAN ANY OTHER AIRLINE AND CONNECTS YOU TO THE SMALLER TOWNS AND REGIONAL CENTRES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. VISIT WWW.FLYAIRLINK.COM. TAKE BETTER PICTURES AND VIDEOS WITH SANDISK! VISIT WWW.TUDORTECH.CO.ZA.



Bet you **didn't know**

7

facts about marvellous marsupials

1 Pademelons thump their feet to warn each other of danger.



5 Numbats eat up to **20 000** termites a day.



2 Sugar gliders can **soar** the length of a rugby field.



6 The brush-tailed **bettong** can pick up things with its **tail**.

3 A wombat's pouch opens at the **bottom**.



4 A red kangaroo can **leap 3 metres** in the air.

7 When it's scared, a Tasmanian devil's **ears** turn bright **red**.



sports funnies

uh-oh!

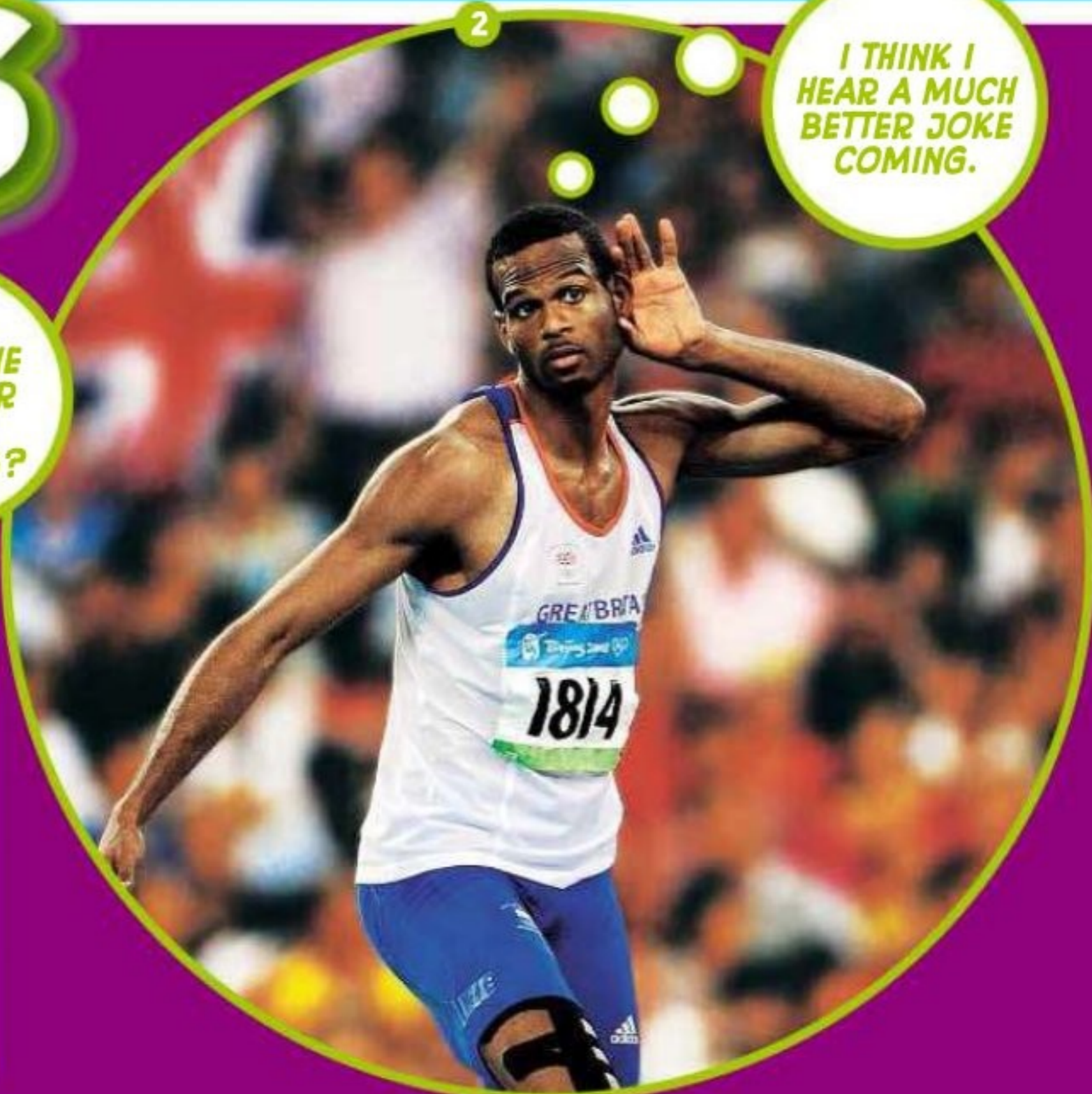
BY KELLEY MILLER

I THINK I HEAR A MUCH BETTER JOKE COMING.

DID SOMEONE CALL FOR PARTY ANIMALS?

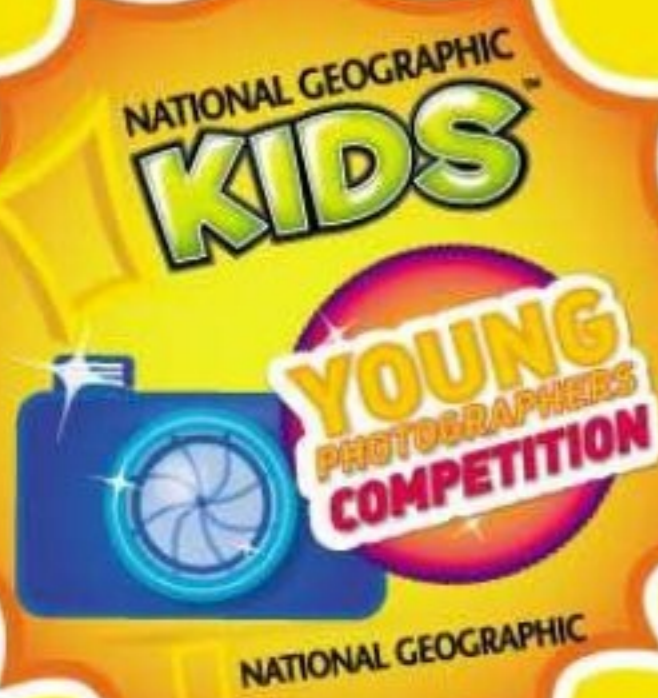


Mascots wait to come onto the field at halftime during a 2004 football game in Atlanta, America.



Great Britain team member Germaine Mason gestures to the crowd during the men's high jump final at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, China.

© FRANCK ROBICHON / EPA / CORBIS (1); JAMIE SOUIRE / GETTY IMAGES (2)



NG KIDS YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHERS COMPETITION ENTRY FORM



FULL NAME: AGE: BIRTH DATE: | |

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

SCHOOL:

PHOTOGRAPH TITLE/S:

CATEGORIES: (you can enter up to four pics)

- ANIMALS
- I LOVE SOUTH AFRICA
- PEOPLE
- THAT'S FUNNY

This is my own original work and I give NG KIDS permission to publish and display my photographs. I agree that the photographs become the property of NG KIDS and that all rights are transferred to NG KIDS.

PEOPLE

TELEPHONE NUMBERS: HOME GUARDIAN'S CELL

NAME OF GUARDIAN:

SIGNATURE

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS





Springbok



I AM CHILDPROOF



Photographer: Johan Pretorius

I AM THE NIKON COOLPIX S30. I am for families and young photographers. I have a durable waterproof and shockproof body. I am easy to use. With 10 megapixels and HD video for amazing images and fun filters, the Coolpix S30 ensures your creativity. I am the family favourite.

WARRANTY
2 YEAR
Terms and Conditions Apply

WATER
PROOF
UP TO 3 METERS

SHOCK
PROOF
FROM 0.8 METERS

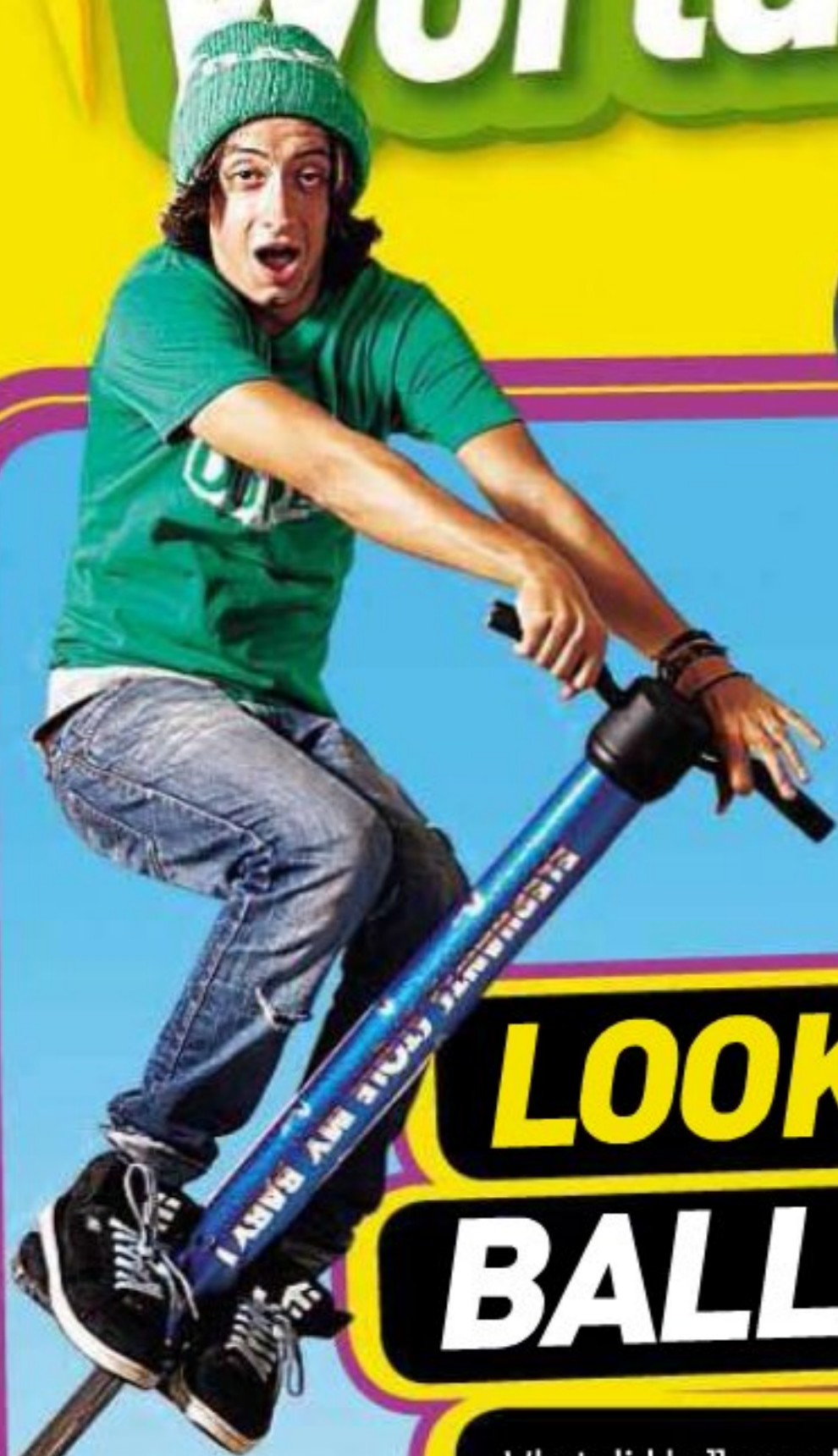


ASTONISHING
STORIES FROM
THE FILES OF

Guinness World Records

BY MOLLY MARCOT

RANALD MACKCHNIE / GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS (ALDRIDGE); D. CARR AND H. CRAIGHEAD / CORNELL UNIVERSITY (GUITAR); RYAN SCHUDE / GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS (STEWIE). INFORMATION PROVIDED BY © 2012 GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS LIMITED.



LOOK OUT, BALLOONS!

What did balloons do to him? Bouncing on a pogo stick, Mark Aldridge of England popped a record number of 57 balloons in one minute. "The secret is confidence, concentration and keeping calm," says Mark, who is a professional pogo stick rider. "And I remind myself that it's just fun!"

DUH!
DO NOT
TRY THIS
AT HOME!



TINY GUITAR

Too bad no one can hear the world's smallest guitar. Made from a gelled material called silicon, this microscopic guitar is about one-twentieth the width of a single strand of hair. A laser beam "strums" the strings, which are too small to make a sound that can be heard by humans. Unless, of course, you're a tiny, tiny, tiny person.

1, 2-METRE-LONG CAT



Make some room for this feline. Measuring 1, 2 metres from his nose to the tip of his tail, Stewie holds the record as the longest house cat. He's as long as a seven-year-old boy is tall. Stewie can leap over fences and slide mail off the kitchen counter with his hind legs still planted on the floor. Maybe he dreams about very long mice.

GO ONLINE TO FIND OUT HOW YOU
CAN HELP SET A GUINNESS WORLD RECORD!
KIDS.NATIONALGEOGRAPHIC.COM/RUN-FOR-THE-PLANET



ELAND

Jumping Giants of South

BY JULIKA KENNAWAY



DID YOU KNOW?

Eland can reach a maximum speed of 40 kilometres per hour.

Eland have extremely sharp vision and a very wide angle of view. • Their hearing and sense of smell are superb. • Juveniles and young cows have narrow, light



Western Africa

While calmly munching at an acacia bush, an eland bull hears a rustle behind him. With a skill that would make an Olympic high jumper jealous, he leaps more than two metres over a fence to safety. What makes this even more impressive is that the eland is the heaviest antelope in Africa. Grown males can weigh almost 1 000 kilograms, the weight of fifty nine-year-olds. They don't have to run towards an obstacle like a high jumper, either. Eland can leap from a standstill by rocking back on their haunches and catapulting themselves over an obstacle.

OH, DEER!

The English and Afrikaans name for eland comes from the Dutch word for elk or moose. They were named by Dutch settlers when they arrived in the Western Cape. They saw the large, stately antelope which looked a bit like the elk in their European forests. The difference is that elk and moose are deer and are solitary animals. Eland are from the cattle family and like to live in herds.

BLUE BULL AND FAMILY

The older bulls, called blue bulls, are the easiest to spot. As they grow older, they turn from a tan colour to a slate grey and get a distinctive tuft of longer, curly hair on their forehead.

Both males and females have horns and even calves are born with horn buds. They are double twisted spiral horns that slope backwards in line with the face. The horns are black, but seem silvery white in sunlight. Males use their horns to butt heads with rivals, while females use their horns to protect their young from predators.

Mums give birth to only one calf and the baby already weighs 25 to 35 kilograms when it is born. Quite heavy for a baby! It can run within a few hours after birth and about 24 hours later the mother takes her calf to a nursery herd. The calves get to know one another and soon they stay in the nursery group, while the mother returns to the female group.

The eland's main predators are lion, spotted hyena, cheetah, leopard, wild dog and humans.

CURIOUS CLICKS


For such big animals, eland can move around the veld without making much noise – unless they want to. A dominant male can bellow to advertise his status. A cow clicks and grunts to call her calf, which answers by bleating. Their alarm call is a distinct bark.

They also make a sound that does not come from their mouth! When eland walk or trot you might hear a curious clicking sound that scientists are still puzzled about. Richard Estes, who wrote the book *The Behaviour Guide to African Mammals*,

believes it is caused by a tendon moving over a bone. It seems to be mostly grown-up bulls that “click” like this. Experts think the larger the animal, the louder the click. So it may be a sign of dominance.

VEGGIE GARDEN

Eland like to graze on grass in summer and forage for twigs and leaves in winter. They also eat fruit, berries and seeds and most importantly succulents, plants with thick fleshy leaves, as these give them extra



A MATURE BULL AT THE WEST COAST NATIONAL PARK PEEKS OUT FROM BENEATH HIS MOP OF THICK HAIR.

ter vertical stripes. • They often gather in huge herds, sometimes hanging out with other species like zebra.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Xhosa word for Eland is *Impofo*.



DID YOU KNOW?

Clicks are a big feature of San languages. Try the “|” in |Kaggen. Press your tongue against your front teeth and pull it back to make a “tsk-tsk” sound.

moisture. They often use their horns to break off branches and their hooves to dig for bulbs and tubers.

WATERWISE

Professor Duncan Mitchell at Wits University and his research team have studied eland in Namibia. “We wanted to find out how eland cope in the heat without water,” he explains.

They put radio collars on eland and tracked them in their natural habitat. The answer seems to be that they absorb enough moisture from what they eat. This

means eland would be one of the antelope species most likely to survive in Southern Africa in times of drought.

PRETTY AS A PICTURE

Eland have a special place in Southern African history. The San people, the original inhabitants of Southern Africa, made more rock paintings of eland than of any other animal. The San have even been called “People of the Eland”. Old stories tell us an eland was a sacred animal to them. It was connected to a spiritual being called “|Kaggen”, who loved and protected the animal.

Artists who painted the eland on the rocks over thousands of years were perhaps making sure they said sorry to |Kaggen if their clan had killed eland for food. By painting them they were symbolically bringing them to life again.

They used mostly yellow, orange and red for the eland’s body and this was often mixed with eland blood and fat.

In the Drakensberg there are over 800 paintings of eland. “Some of the best places are near Cathedral Rock,” says local guide Joel Mbhele. “If you camp there you might also hear eland munching and crunching in the early morning. They love eating the trees and juicy aloe!”



THE COLLAR SENDS INFORMATION ABOUT THE ELAND’S BODY TEMPERATURE TO DUNCAN’S TEAM BY RADIO, SO THAT THEY CAN STUDY HOW ITS BODY REACTS WHEN WATER IS SCARCE IN HOT CLIMATES.



Eland are easily domesticated and there are several captive herds in South Africa, Zimbabwe and the Ukraine. • Eland live for 15 to 20 years in the wild.

There are also secret places in the Cederberg where you can see eland painted in rock shelters. Duncan's favourite eland rock art is in Botswana at Tsodilo, a World Heritage Site, where some paintings are thought to be more than 20 000 years old. Ivan Vaalbooi, a San Guide from !Kha ttu, a private reserve and San cultural centre in the Western Cape, says to him the eland is a wonderful animal. "My elders in the Kalahari told me stories about eland and talked about the respect they have for this animal."

WHERE TO SEE ELAND

You'll find eland all over Southern Africa on private game farms and in national game reserves. There are large herds in the Kruger National Park and in at least nine other South African parks. You'll also find some in Etosha National Park in Namibia, the Kalahari in Botswana and small herds in Mozambique.

HERD THE NEWS

The good news is the eland population is classified as "Least Concern" by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). "They are an important part of the SANParks ecosystem but don't need a special conservation effort," says Carly Cowell, a SANParks ecologist.

"Eland eat both grasses and shrubs.

ELAND MOTHERS ARE VERY SKITTISH AND PROTECTIVE WHEN THEY HAVE THEIR CALVES NEARBY.

This is good for the plants as it gives the ecosystem time to recover. It's also good for eland as they can survive on different vegetation types and during droughts when there is little grass to eat but still leaves on trees".

The hoofprints of the large herds are beneficial to the soil, because they create grooves which allow rainwater and seeds to sink into the soil.

It's good to know these wonderful animals, that are such an important part of our heritage, are well looked after. Blue Bulls forever!



and 25 in captivity. • A female can produce up to seven kilograms of milk per day and it is richer in butterfat than cow's milk.

BY JOHN MICKLOS, JR.

HERO MUM

A MOTHER LION BRAVES A CLIFF TO SAVE HER STRANDED CUB.

CLINGING TO A CLIFF wall at Kenya's Masai Mara National Reserve, a lion cub yowls for help. Somehow he got stuck on the slope. At the foot of the cliff lies a riverbank where hungry animals lurk. If the lion tumbles to the bottom, he might become prey for a crocodile. Luckily the cub's mum arrives. Can she get to him in time?



Lions can tell the difference between the roars of their pride and the roars of strangers.

1 CUB CLINGS TO CLIFF

The lioness begins to creep down the slope. But it's too steep, and she's forced to reverse. The cub's sharp cries fill the air and every time he tries to move, he slides further down the sandy wall. After returning to her perch at the top of the cliff, the mother peers down at her cub. "Both seemed terrified, but neither knew what to do," says Jean-François Lagrot, a wildlife photographer who caught the ordeal on his camera.

STRANDED CUB



2 THE PRIDE TRIES TO HELP

Four other members of the pride arrive at the cliff's edge and try to descend the wall toward the whimpering cub. But the climb is too difficult and one by one they give up. By now the youngster is so tired, he can barely move. He may not have the strength to grip the wall much longer. Knowing she needs to act fast, the mother lion starts down the cliff again.



3

MUM TO THE RESCUE

The lioness digs her strong paws into the nearly vertical slope. Slowly and carefully she edges closer to the cub. Just as the little lion looks as if he might fall, his mum circles under him and scoops him up in her mouth. Carrying the young lion by the scruff of his neck, she crawls back up the cliff.

Lion mothers with cubs about the same age form groups called crèches to care for their young.



4

MISSION COMPLETE

Once out of danger, the mother sets down her little one and comforts him by licking his head. "She was letting him know that everything was fine," says lion expert Craig Packer of the University of Minnesota in America. As frightening as the ordeal may have been for mother and cub, such rescues are quite common. "Mother lions often fetch their cubs when they get stranded in unsafe places," Craig says. Sounds like lion mums and heroes are a lot alike!

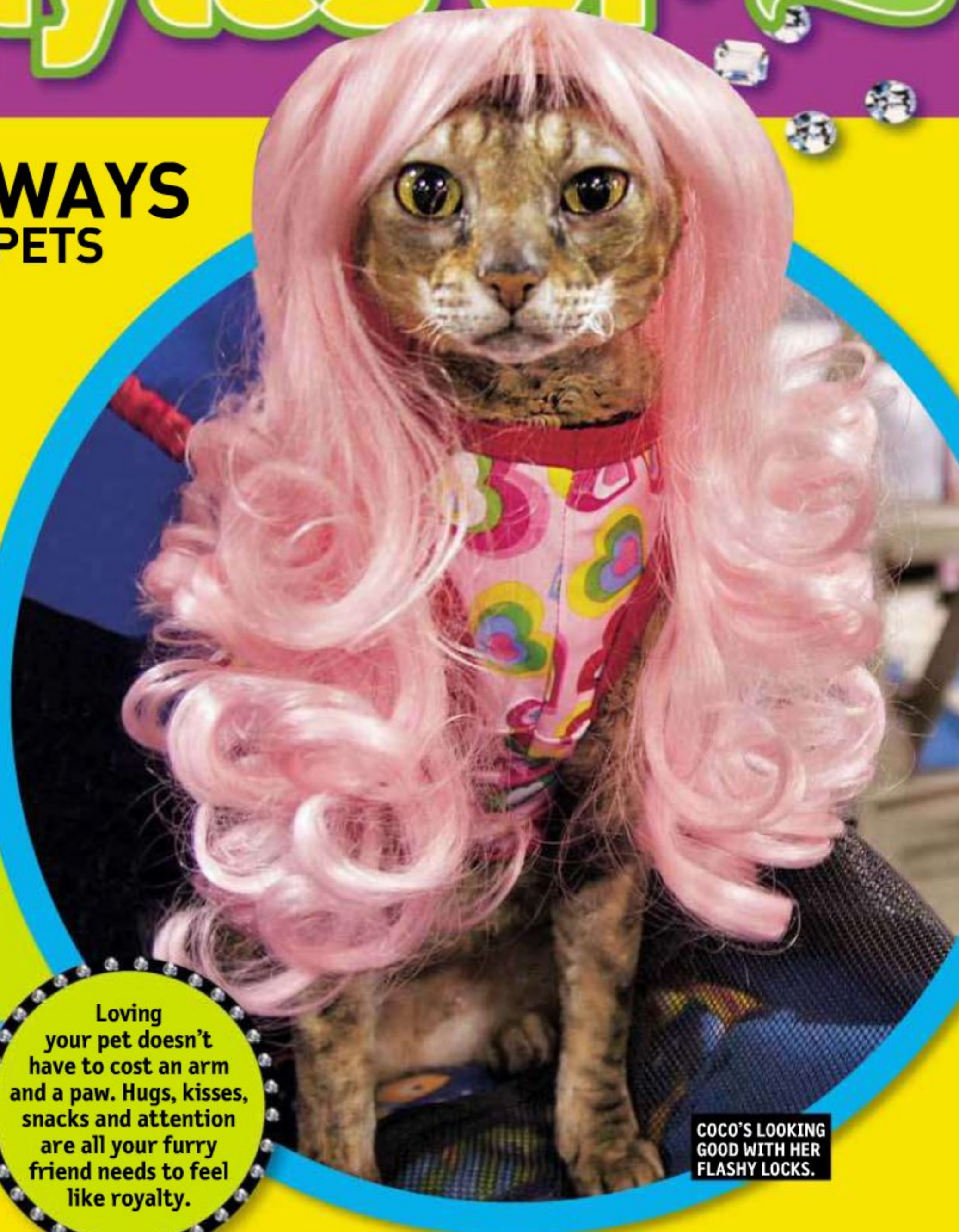
Lion cubs like to play with everything from twigs to their mother's tail.

Lifestyles of the

OVER-THE-TOP WAYS PEOPLE PAMPER THEIR PETS

BY BRIDGET A. ENGLISH

Celebs and royalty aren't the only ones lapping up luxury. With decorated doghouses, private jets and cat crowns, the lifestyles of some pets are totally drool-worthy. "Pets are an important part of the family," says Bob Vetere, associate president of the American Pet Products Association. "Some owners like to shower their animals with nice things." NG KIDS got the scoop on some perks for posh pets.



COCO'S LOOKING GOOD WITH HER FLASHY LOCKS.

KITTY GLITTER ▶

Like many pampered pets, Coco the cat has the latest fashion accessories. When this kitty wants to show off her rock star style, she slips on a hot-pink wig. For a more elegant look, the feline fashionista wears a fake fur coat and tiara. Coco also has a sweet set of wheels – she cruises around in a stroller that costs R1 600. At night the classy cat snuggles up on a supersoft cat bed warmed by a heating pad. This kitty is sitting pretty!

Loving your pet doesn't have to cost an arm and a paw. Hugs, kisses, snacks and attention are all your furry friend needs to feel like royalty.

◀ CANINE CASTLES

Coco Puff the Yorkshire terrier and Rio the Dobermann pinscher love to relax in their two-bedroom doghouse with a toy cupboard. Available in America from a company that specialises in custom-built luxury dog homes, these are for owners who want their pets to live in style. Fancy doggie digs can have wood floors, bay windows and balconies.



THIS DOG FEELS RIGHT AT HOME IN HIS POOCH PALACE.



INSIDE

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO BE THE CAT'S MEOW?

Gourmet Catnip: R160 a container

Cat Wig: R480

Custom Doghouse: R40 000 and up

© KATE PINNEY (COCO); © LA PETITE MAISON (DOG MANSION, BOTH); © ROBERT OCHOA IPLANE, BOTH; © DAVID BLATTEL (DOG DOING YOGA); © REBECCA COLLINS (CAT PAINTING); © JAMES DAWSON / IMAGE FARM / JUPITERIMAGES

RICH and FURRY

RICOCHET THE GOLDEN RETRIEVER LIVES THE HIGH LIFE WITH A GOURMET MEAL ON A PLANE.



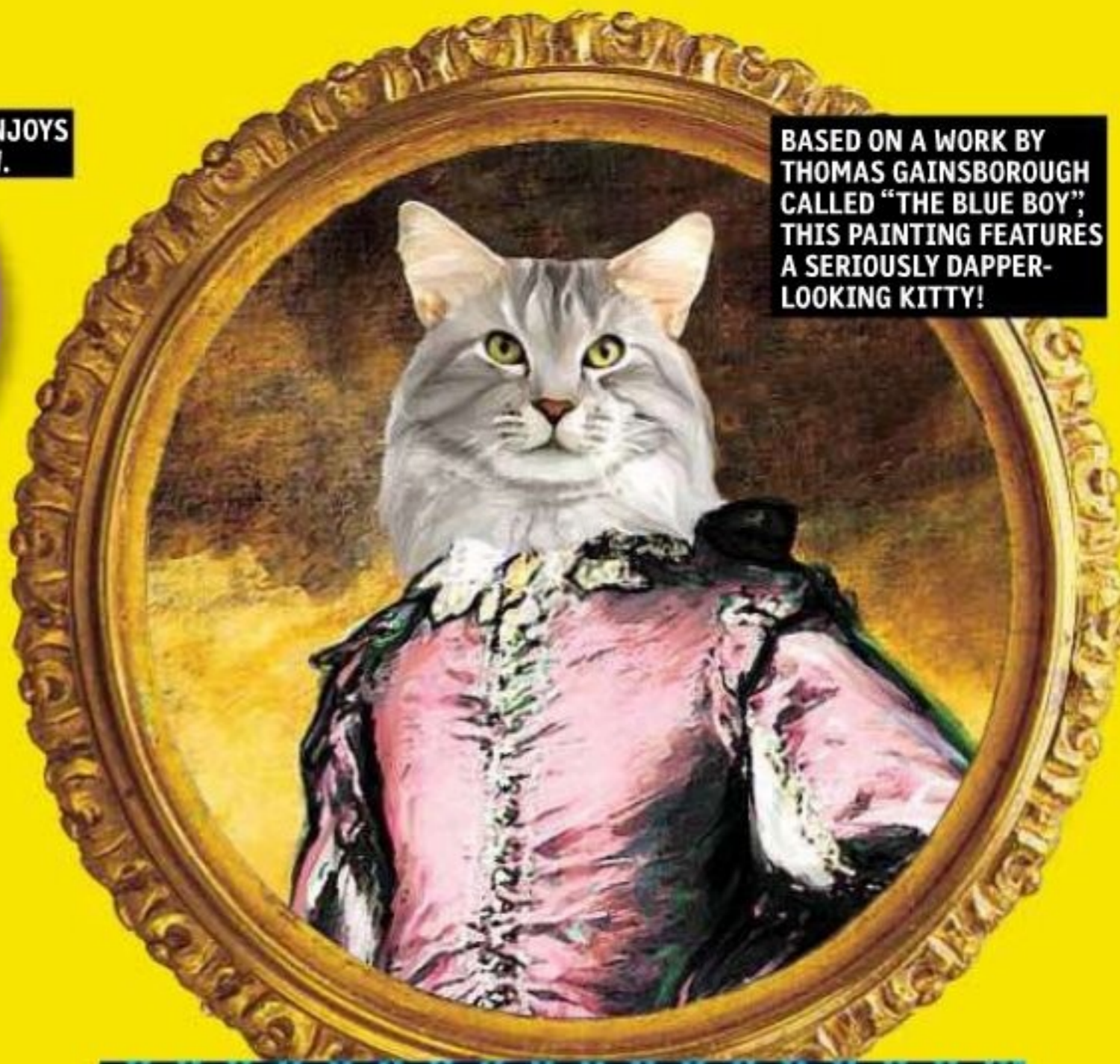
◀ JET-SET PETS

Beijit the golden retriever has just the ticket for travelling in style. When she flies on private jets with her owners, they hire a pet flight attendant to care for her. "Our animal customers are extremely pampered," says Carol Martin, owner of Sit 'n Stay Global. The company's pet flight attendants serve freshly cooked meals on fine china and give thirsty critters chilled springwater in crystal bowls. The first-class service continues after the plane has landed. The attendants become pet nannies, caring for their animal clients while the owners go sightseeing. Bone voyage!

BEIJIT ENJOYS THE VIEW.



BASED ON A WORK BY THOMAS GAINSBOROUGH CALLED "THE BLUE BOY", THIS PAINTING FEATURES A SERIOUSLY DAPPER-LOOKING KITTY!



A German shepherd named Gunther IV is said to be the world's richest dog. He inherited at least R533 million from his owner.

▶ JOIN THE CLUB

Frank the bulldog's favourite hangout isn't a dog park – it's a country club! Club Beverly Hills is a fancy resort that caters to canines. "Dogs are so excited when they arrive here, they leap out of the car," owner Marjorie Lewis says. Members start their visits by running around a specially made fitness course and playing tug-of-war with friends on the club's manicured lawn. To relax, posh pets can soak in a hot tub, get massages and facials, or do yoga with a human instructor.



DOG DOES YOGA!

• CATS ON CANVAS

Tiger the tabby's owners wanted more than just photographs of their beloved feline, so they asked an artist to paint a portrait. "Pet paintings are a tribute to the bond people have with their animals," says Rebecca Collins of Art Paw portrait studio. Collins and her team create pet paintings based on snapshots sent in by owners. The price is R1 000 or more. They'll even recreate famous works of art such as Leonardo da Vinci's "Mona Lisa" and add the pet to the scene.

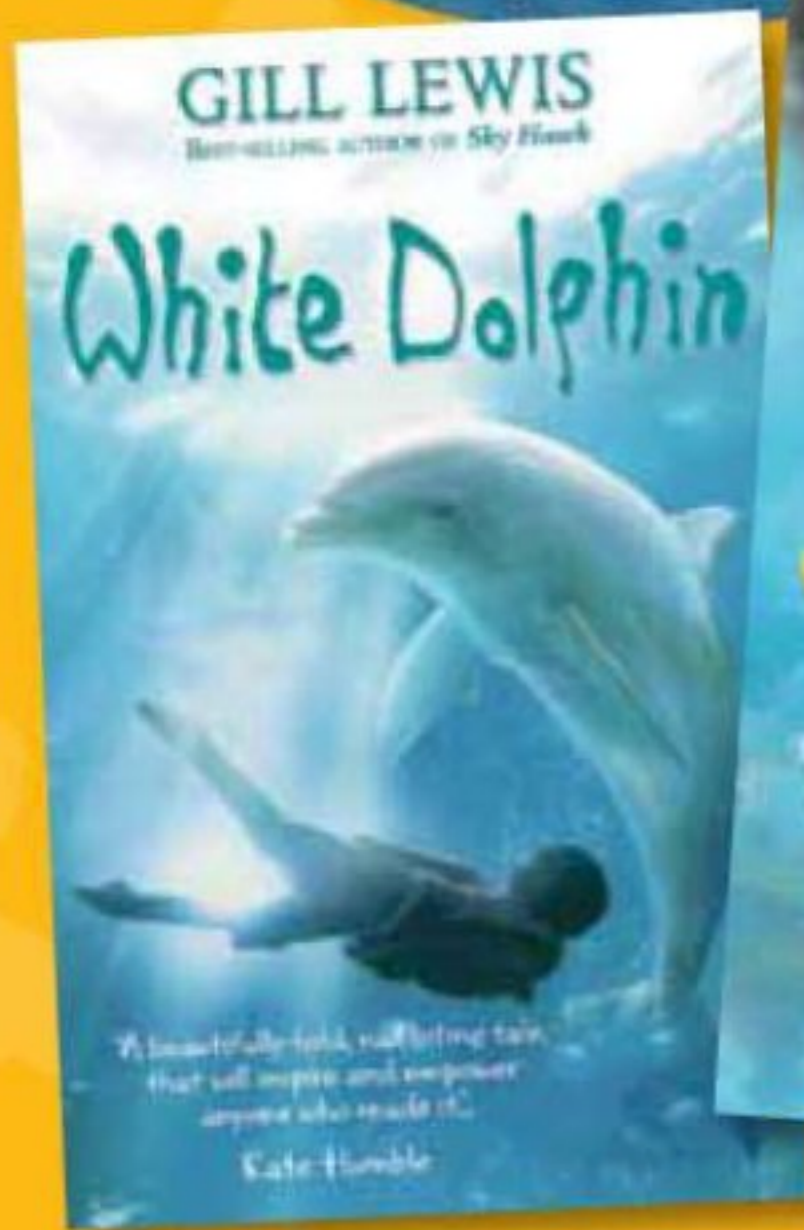
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Gift offer limited to the first 139 new and existing subscribers, thereafter only the discount applies. There are 71 copies of *Sky Hawk* and 68 copies of *White Dolphin*.



FREE GIFT!

SKY HAWK

Callum and his friends find Iona, the granddaughter of the local loner, on his farm and try to chase her back to the village. Iona runs into the Scottish hills where it's dark and cold. Callum follows and finds her shivering from the cold but refusing to leave. She is guarding a secret hidden in the forest above the dark waters of the loch. An exciting read of a pact between two loyal and hopeful friends that will change lives forever...

WHITE DOLPHIN

Kara is bullied at school for her dyslexia and Felix misses his old friends back in London. When they meet, they dislike each other right away. Then they discover a young dolphin stranded on the beach and they have to work together to save it against all odds. The two become friends who set out to solve their own mysteries including finding Kara's missing mother. They set in motion a dramatic chain of events and soon they must make an impossible choice between risking their lives and perhaps losing everything.

Visit www.oxford.co.za for more information.

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ENGLISH

AFRIKAANS

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Tel. Cell E-mail

Birth date Age

CHOOSE GIFT: Sky Hawk White Dolphin

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START

PARLEZ-VOUS
FRANÇAIS?

A-maze-ing Paris

Stay on the white paths and help the lost travellers find their way out of a crazy imaginary world underneath Paris, France. **ANSWER ON PAGE 50**

What in the World?

THE HOLE THING

These photographs show close-up views of things with holes. Unscramble the letters to identify what's in each picture. Bonus: Use the highlighted letters to solve the puzzle below.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 50



GUTONDHU



SISWS ESHECE



TRGAIU



IBRATB LEOH



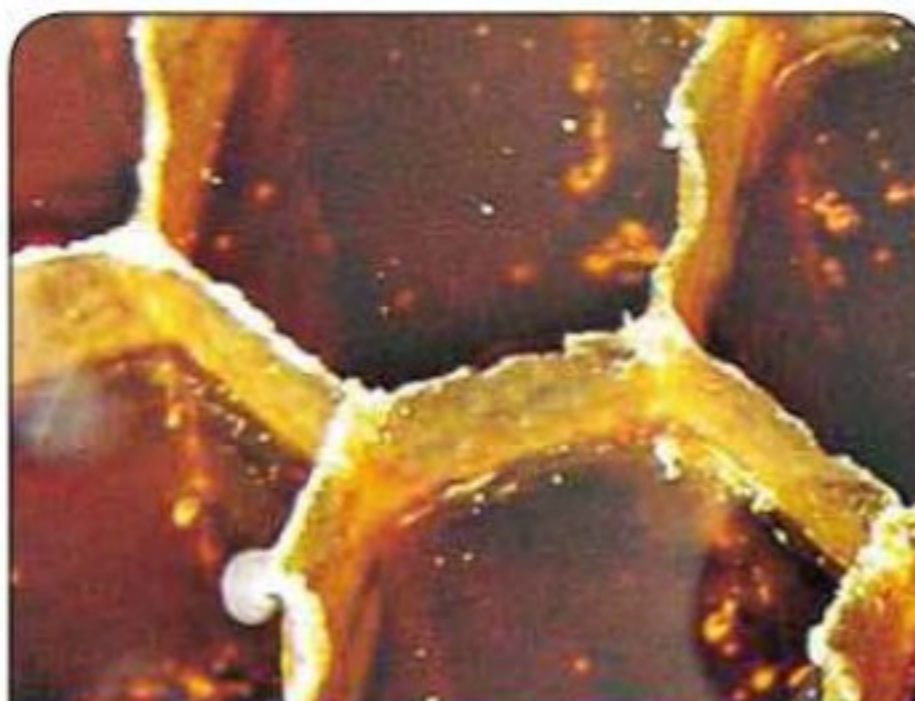
GNIWMMSI BUTE



YEKEOHL



RALCEE



NEMOCBOHY



FOLG OELH

HINT: It's great for a golfer, but not for a pair of pants.

ANSWER: _ _ _ 0 _ _ _ _ _

TOP ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT): © PABLO631 / DREAMSTIME; © EYEWAVE / DREAMSTIME; © CHRISTIAN BRIDGWATER / DREAMSTIME
MIDDLE ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT): © YIN JIAN NG / DREAMSTIME; © TOMBAKY / DREAMSTIME; © EUTOCH / DREAMSTIME; BOTTOM
ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT): © GIUSEPPE RAMOS / DREAMSTIME; © MIHAIL ORLOV / DREAMSTIME; © CHRIS WOOD / DREAMSTIME.

Funny FILL-IN

Water World

BY SALLY KING

Ask a friend to give you words to fill in the blanks in this story without showing it to him or her. Then read out loud for a laugh.

My friends and I have the _____ job _____ gardens for Mrs Johnson, the _____ lady who lives down the _____. One day, while _____ pulled out _____ and _____ the lawn, I watered the _____. Then I had a(n) _____ idea. Wouldn't it be more fun to water my *friends* instead? But just as I turned the hose on my pals, Mrs Johnson _____ into the path of the water spray – and got _____. My friends and I froze. To our surprise she yelled, “ _____ fight!” She pulled a water _____ from her back pocket and squirted my _____. Then she aimed another _____-shaped _____ at _____ as _____ dived behind a(n) _____. Who knew gardening was a contact sport?



Art Zone

NG KIDS readers love a braai and sent us pictures of their families having a sizzling good time!



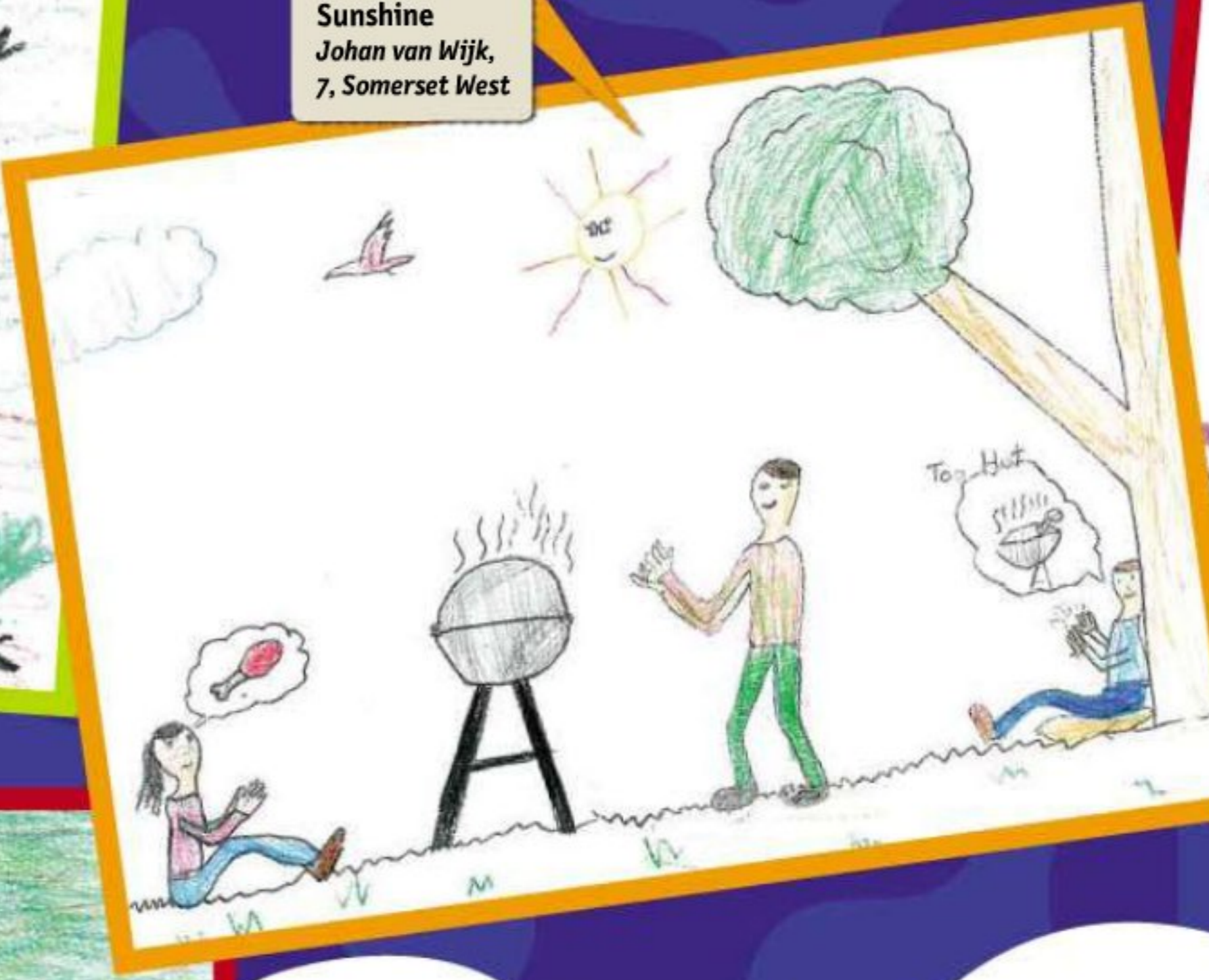
Wat meer kan 'n mens Braai!

"Trots Suid-Afrikaanse Braai"
Megan Rabie, 10, De Wet

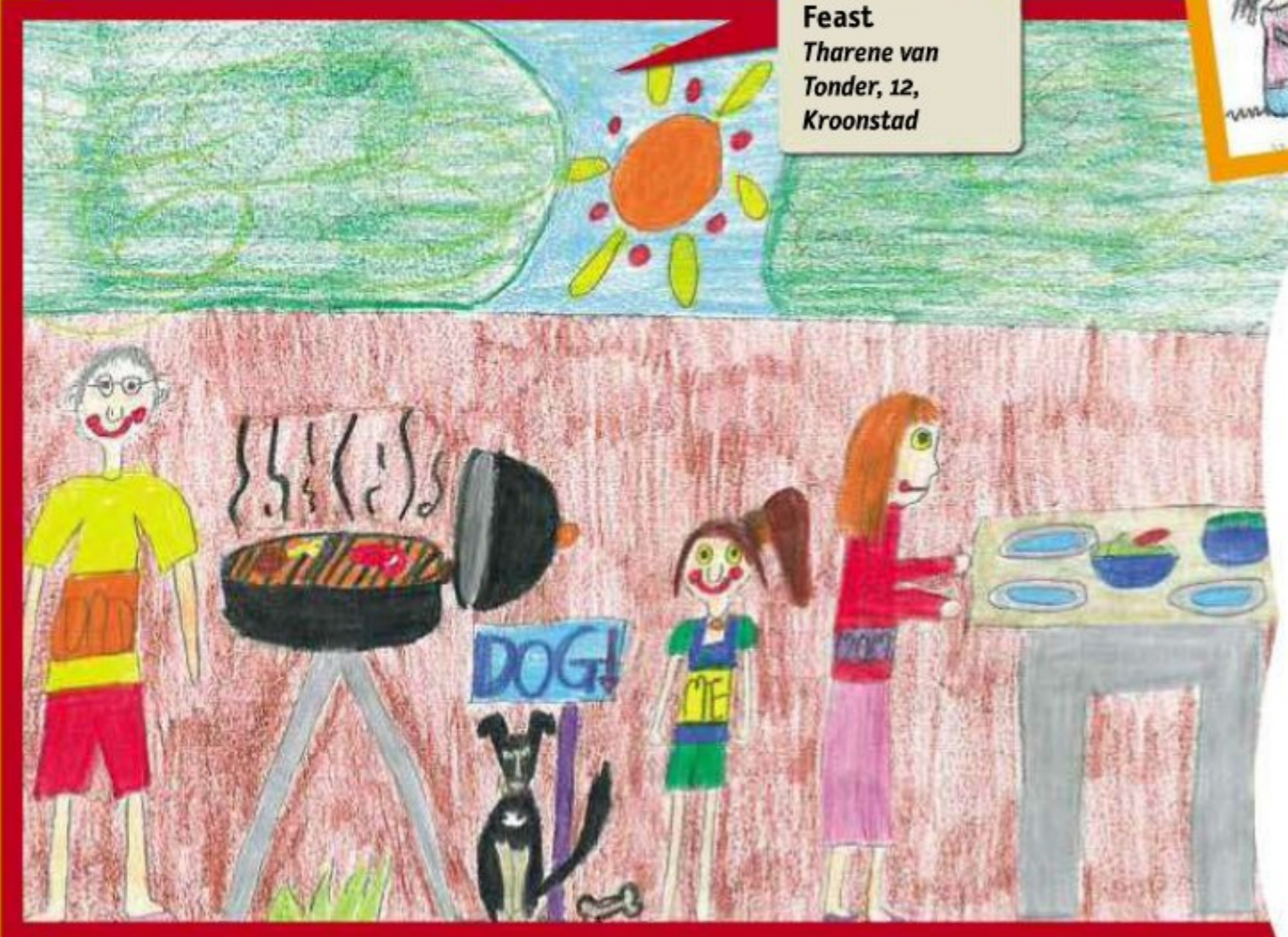


Fouchés Braaivleis
Francois Fouché, 9, Hartswater

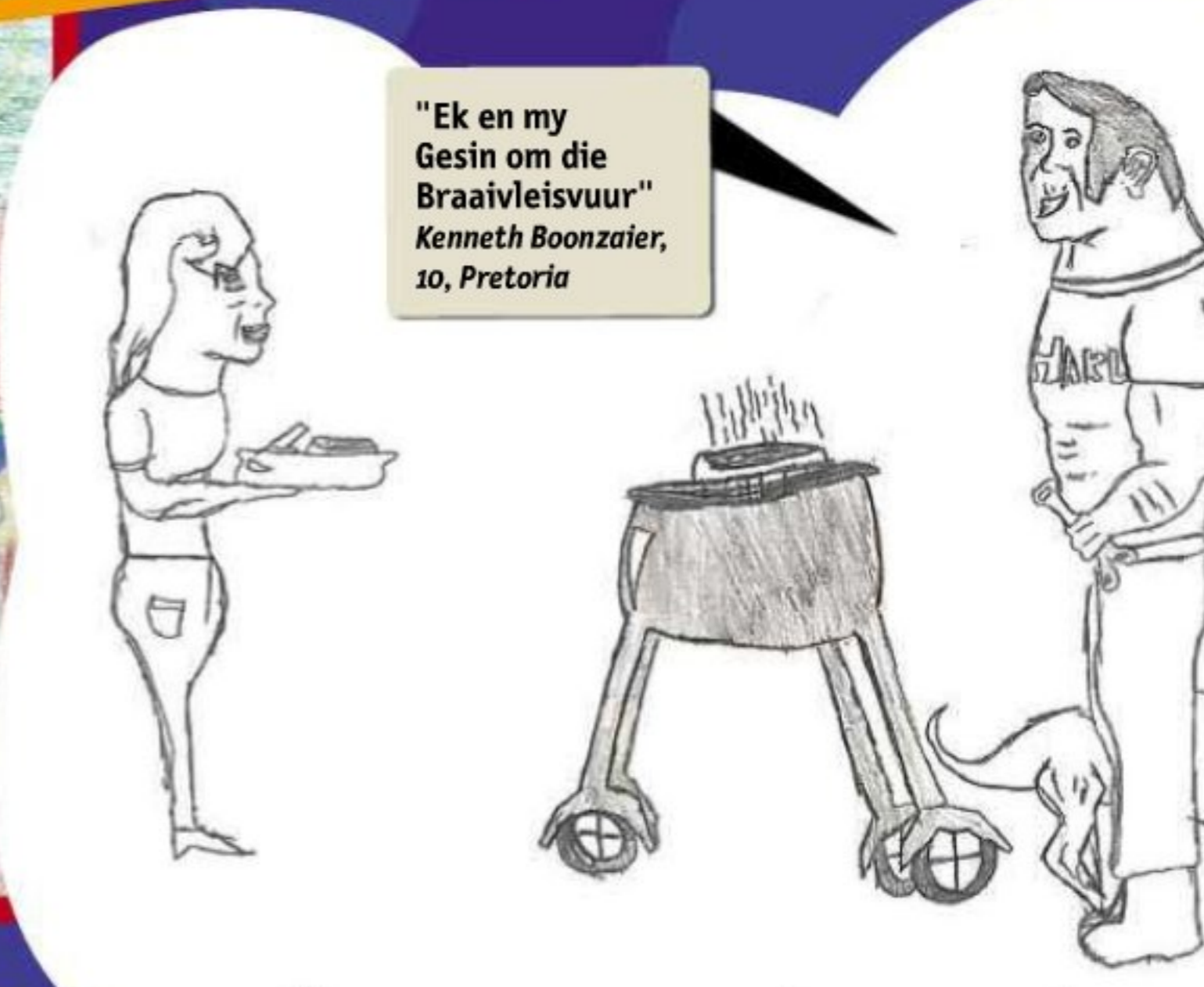
Summer, Sunshine
Johan van Wijk, 7, Somerset West



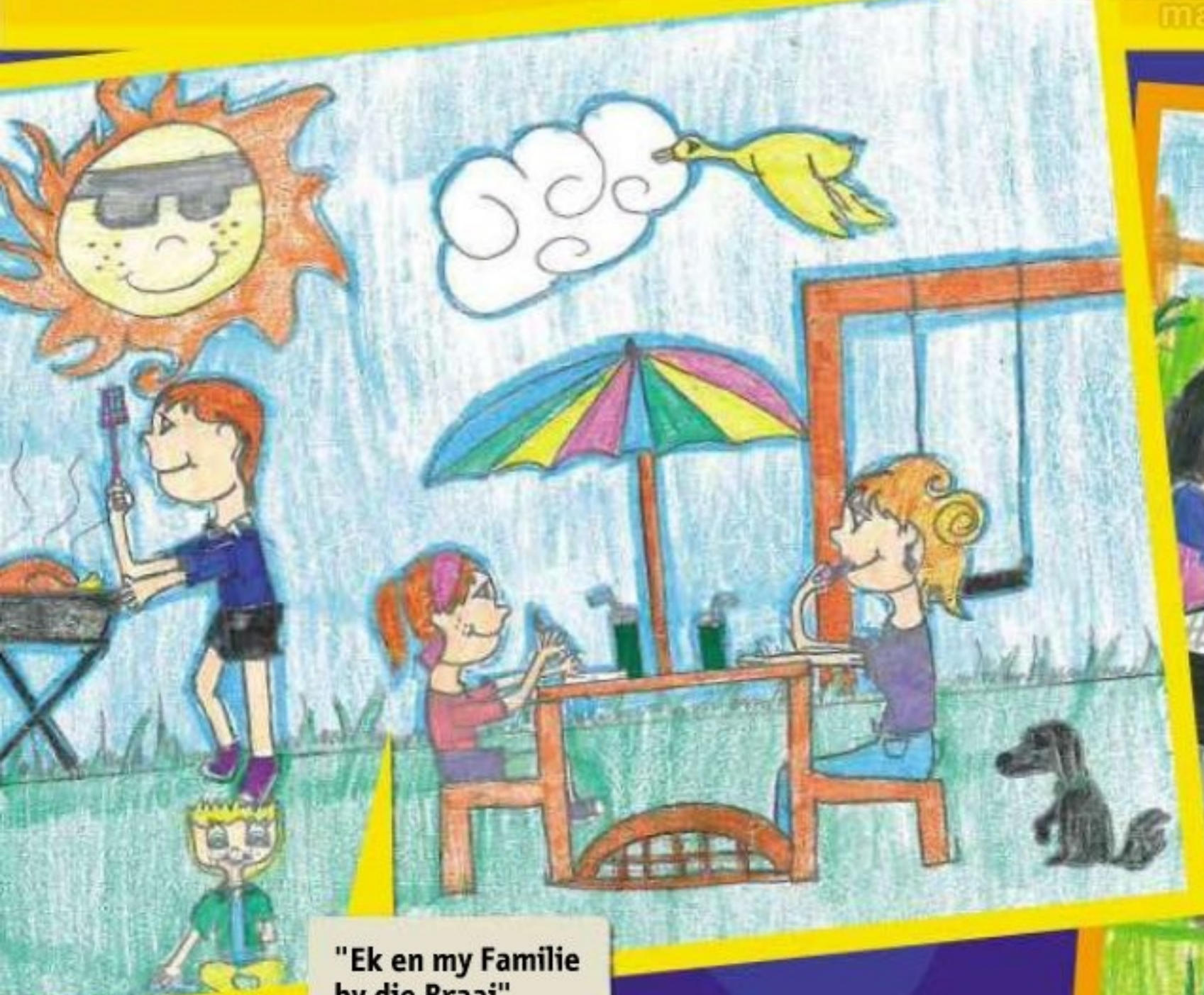
The Braaivleis Feast
Tharene van Tonder, 12, Kroonstad



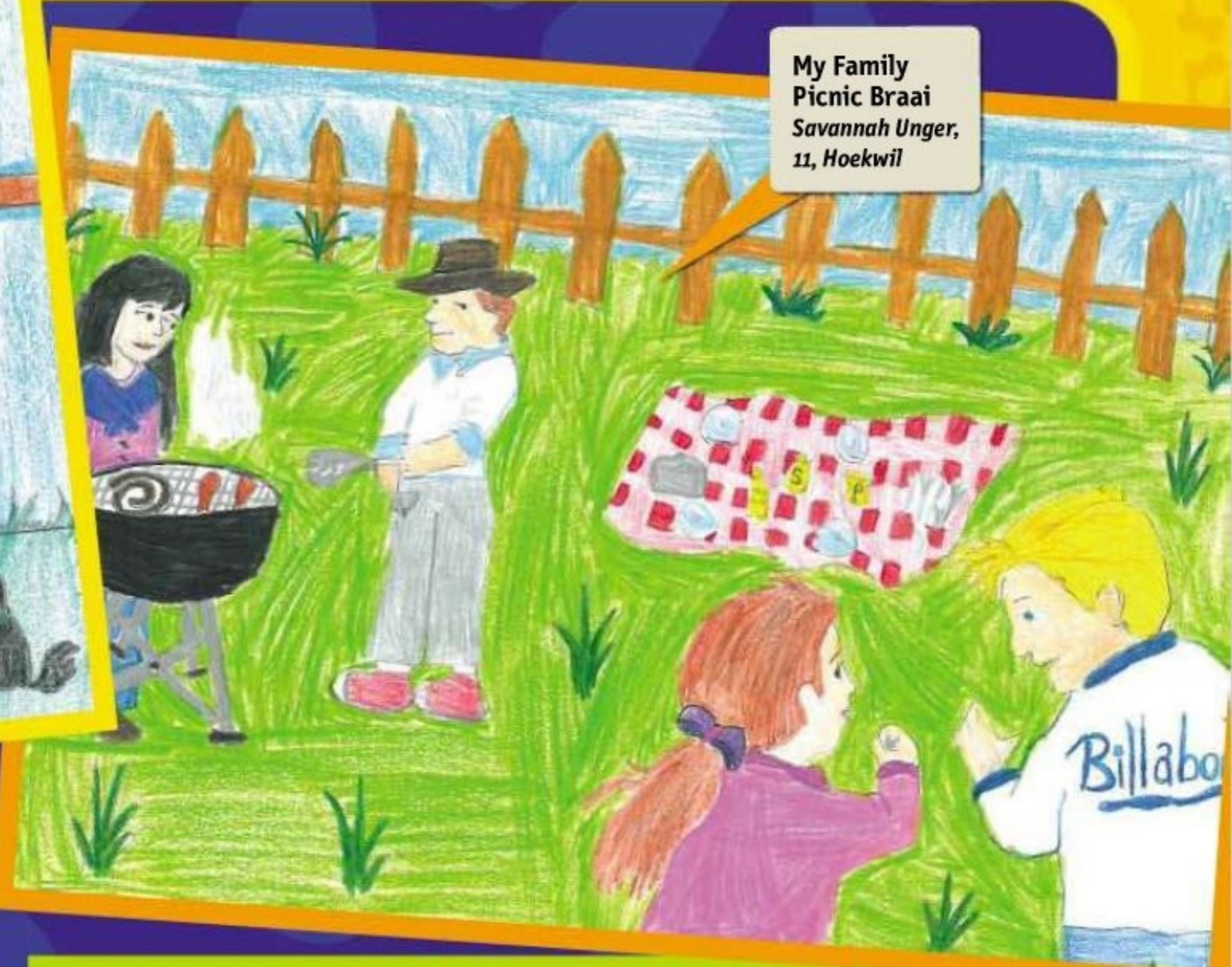
"Ek en my Gesin om die Braaivleisvuur"
Kenneth Boonzaier, 10, Pretoria



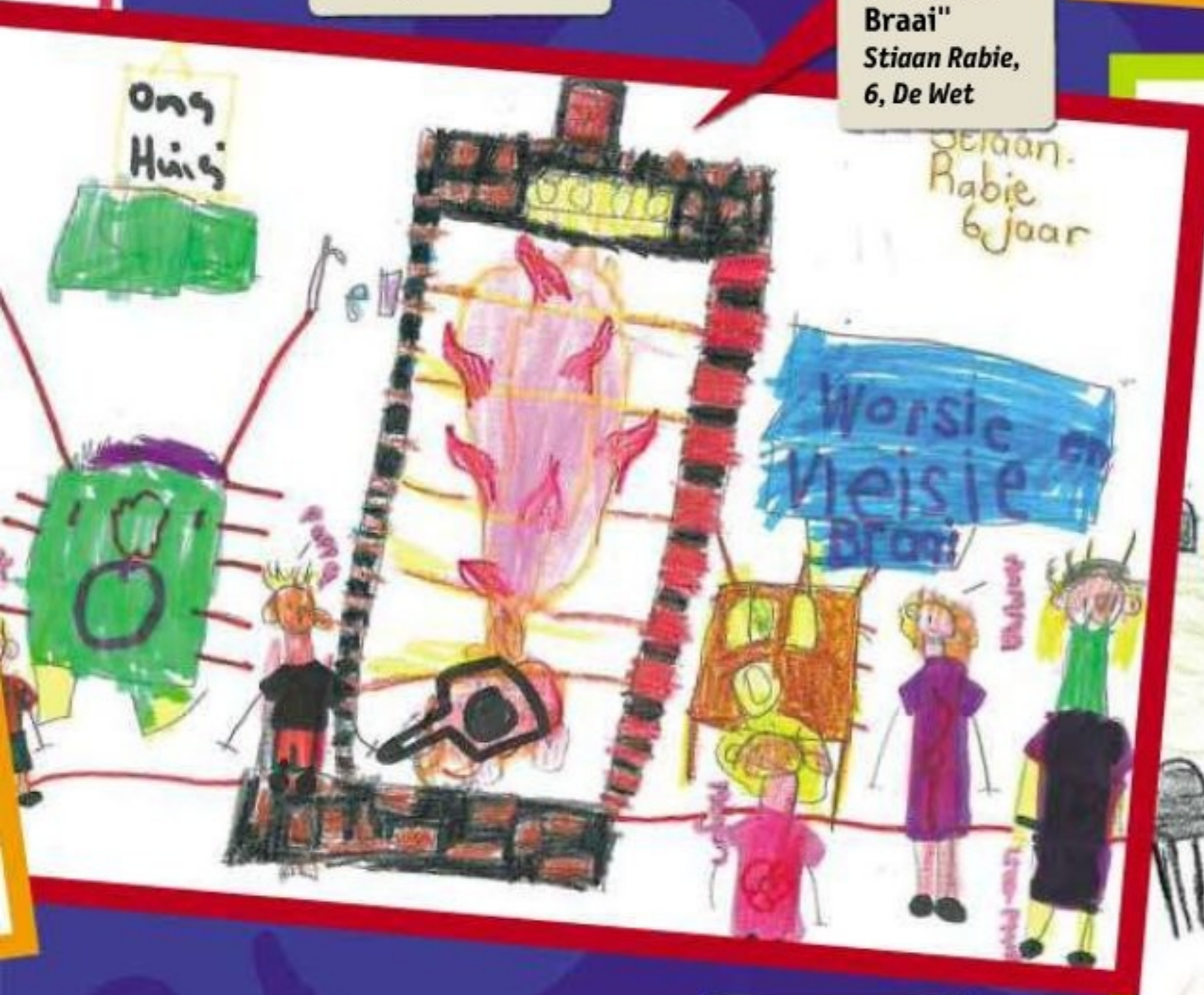
ek en my gesin om die vuur



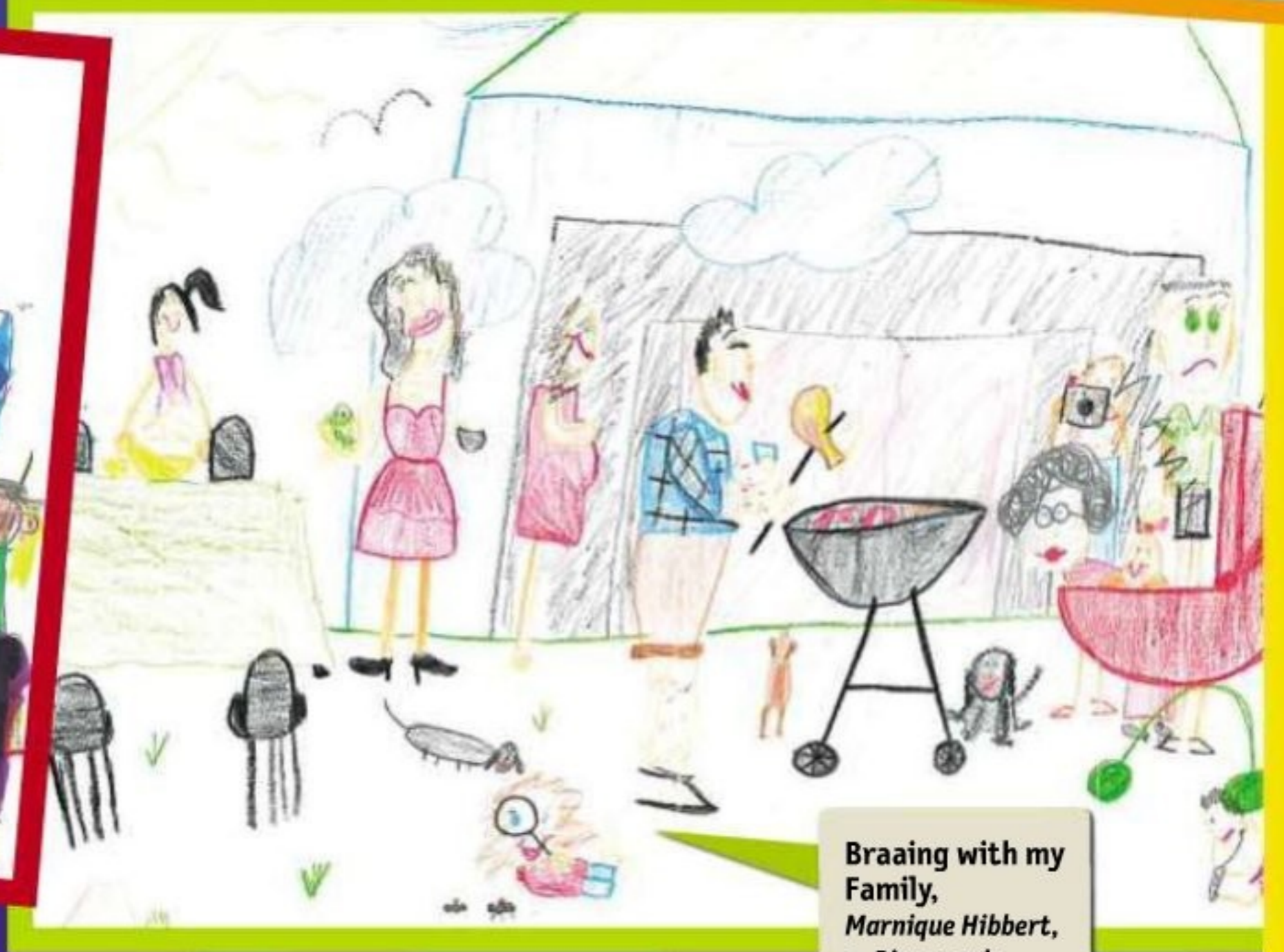
"Ek en my Familie by die Braai"
 Kristy-Leigh Du Plessis, 11, Darlington



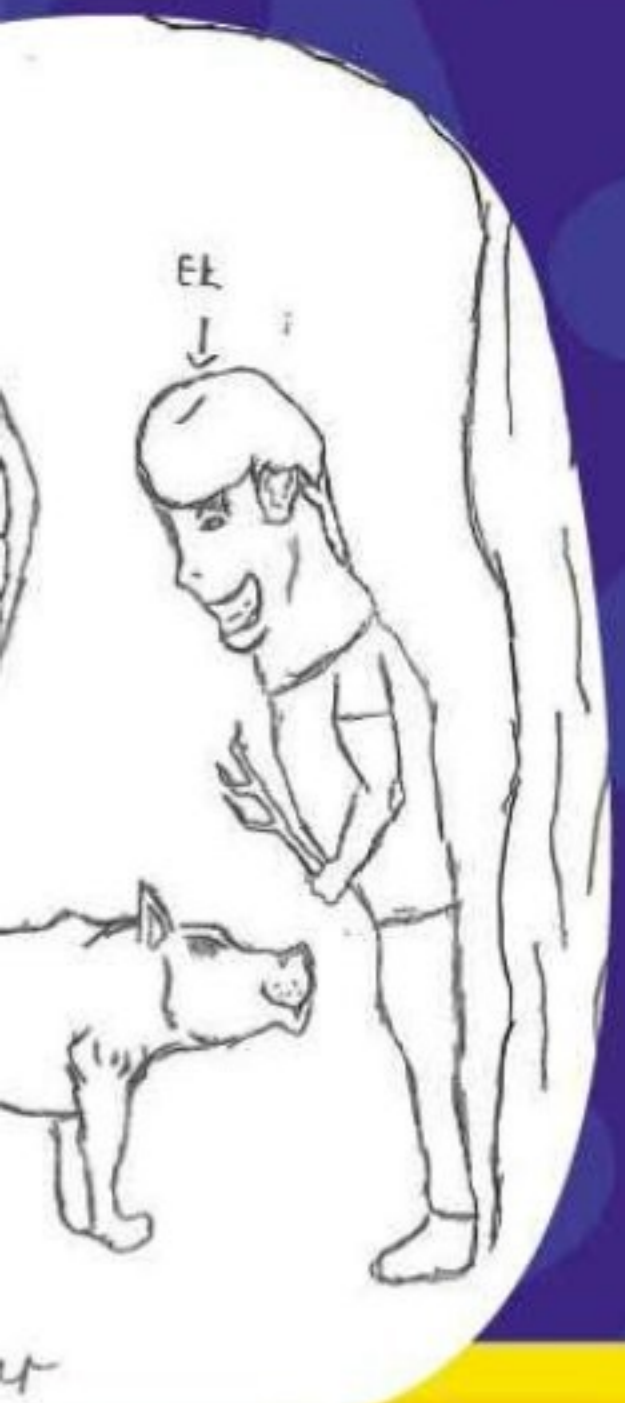
My Family Picnic Braai
 Savannah Unger, 11, Hoekwil



"Worsie en Vleisie Braai"
 Stiaan Rabie, 6, De Wet



Braaiing with my Family,
 Marnique Hibbert, 9, Pinetown



"Die Rabie Braai"
 Lize-Marie Rabie, 12, De Wet

DRAW your DREAM TENT

Send your original drawings to
 The Editor at NG KIDS,
 PO Box 740, Cape Town 8000.

Include your name, address, phone number, date of birth, a title for your drawing, a statement that it is your own work and the name of your parent or guardian. Your parent or guardian must sign a release for publication of your illustration. Submissions become the property of the National Geographic Society and all rights are transferred to the National Geographic Society. Submissions cannot be acknowledged or returned. Selection will be at the discretion of NG KIDS.

Family Project

Recycled Robot

14 SEPTEMBER IS RECYCLING DAY, SO DO YOUR PART TO HELP KEEP SOUTH AFRICA AND THE EARTH CLEAN. TRY MAKING THIS EASY ROBOT OUT OF A RECYCLED FOOD TIN, SCRAP METAL, TOOLS, SCREWS AND NUTS AND BOLTS LYING AROUND DAD'S GARAGE!



FUN FACT

LOCAL FOOD CANS ARE MADE OF TINPLATE WITH A THICK LAYER OF TIN AT THE TOP AND BOTTOM.

How to:

1. Wash the food tin until the label comes off.
2. Go on a scavenger hunt through dad's toolbox or garage to find old nuts and bolts he doesn't use anymore.
3. Decide what you want your robot to look like.
4. Carefully paste the pieces to the tin with craft glue.
5. Ask your mum if she has old pieces of steel wool to use as hair for your robot.
6. You can keep your stationary or a plant in your robot!



FUN FACT

SOUTH AFRICA'S RECOVERY RATE OF ALL CANS, INCLUDING COOL DRINK CANS, WAS OVER 70 PERCENT IN 2011. LET'S MAKE IT HIGHER IN 2012!

Bright Idea!

You can recycle jam jars and turn them into beautiful family photo frames! Wash the jars, ask your mum to help you find some family photos and cut them to size. Carefully place them inside the jar. Turn the jar around!

FUN factory



BOOKWORM! ↓

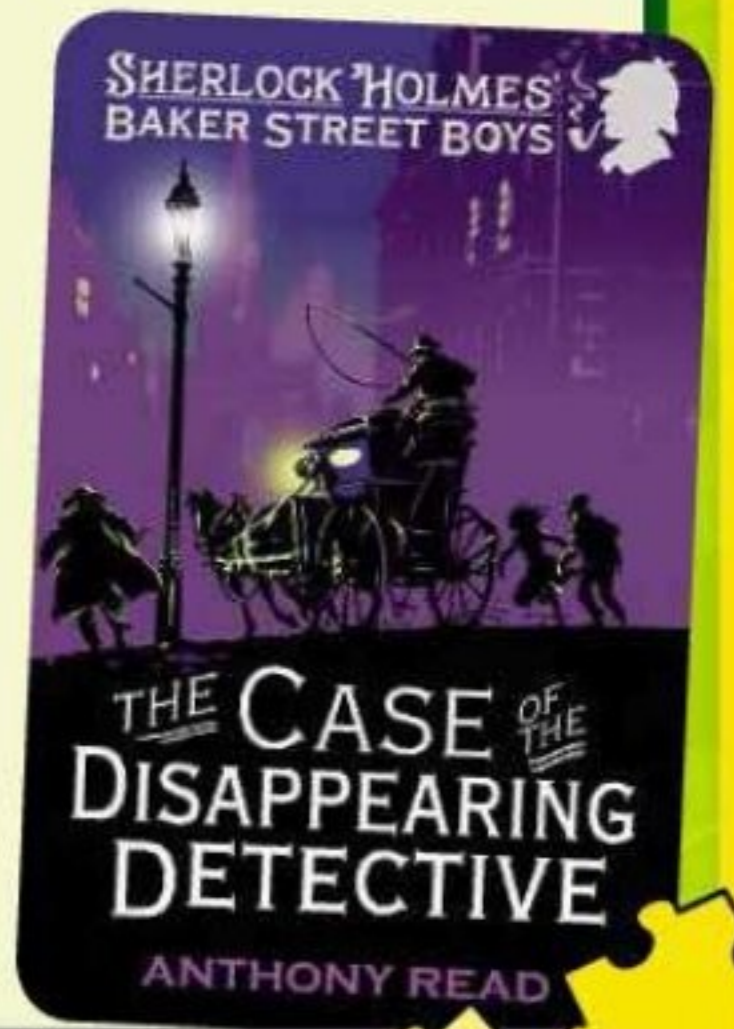
WIN A BOOK!

You can win one of five *Baker Street Boys* books. SMS* "NGK BSB" followed by your name, age and address to 33970.

THE BAKER STREET BOYS: *The Case of the Disappearing Detective*

By Anthony Read

London can be a dangerous place with robbers and pickpockets looking for their next victim. Luckily a gang of brave, young detectives are keeping the streets safe. The Baker Street Boys help the brilliant detective Sherlock Holmes to solve mind-boggling puzzles. During the Diamond Jubilee in 1897 the boys help with a case involving a mysterious American. But Sherlock is kidnapped! The young detectives have to find the famous sleuth quickly...



PLAY THIS! ↓

London 2012 PS3, PS3 MOVE

The crowd chants your name as you walk into the Olympic stadium – the atmosphere is electric. The Olympic flame burns to your right and then it's ready, set, go! You're taking part in the London 2012 Olympics and you're gunning for gold. Compete in 45 events – from gymnastic vaulting, diving to running and slalom kayaking. Choose where you want to compete, decide which country you want to represent and pick an outfit. You'll compete in two numbers a day and will have to qualify for the final to keep your medal hopes alive. If you fail you can use one of your retry tokens. Choose single events in "Event Play" or try fun games with "Party Play" if a sports career is not for you. Timing and stamina is everything – do you have what it takes to go faster, higher, stronger?



WIN A GAME!

You can win one of two *London 2012* games. SMS* "NGK LONDON" followed by your name, age and address to 33970.

SOLVE THIS! ↓

THE CASE OF THE KIDNAPPED MAN

Use the evidence you have to solve this crime. There are five people. One kidnapped one of the others yesterday. Which one is the kidnapper?

Evidence:

1. Thabo ran in the Two Oceans marathon all day yesterday with one of the innocent men.
2. Peter considered being a farmer before he moved to Cape Town.
3. Jeff is a computer consultant and wants to install Pierre's new computer next week.
4. The kidnapper broke his leg last month.
5. Pierre met Jack for the first time six months ago.
6. Jack has been in bed with measles since the crime.
7. Pierre and Jeff built their last computers together.
8. The kidnapper is Jack's brother. They grew up together in Cape Town.
9. Pierre sold his old computer to Thabo today.

Answer:
 A. Jack is not the kidnapper, because he is the brother of the kidnapper.
 B. Thabo is not the kidnapper because he ran a marathon yesterday and the kidnapper broke his leg.
 C. Pierre is not the kidnapper because he only met Jack six months ago, so he's not Jack's brother.
 D. Peter didn't grow up in Cape Town, so Jeff kidnapped Peter.

MAKE THIS! ↓

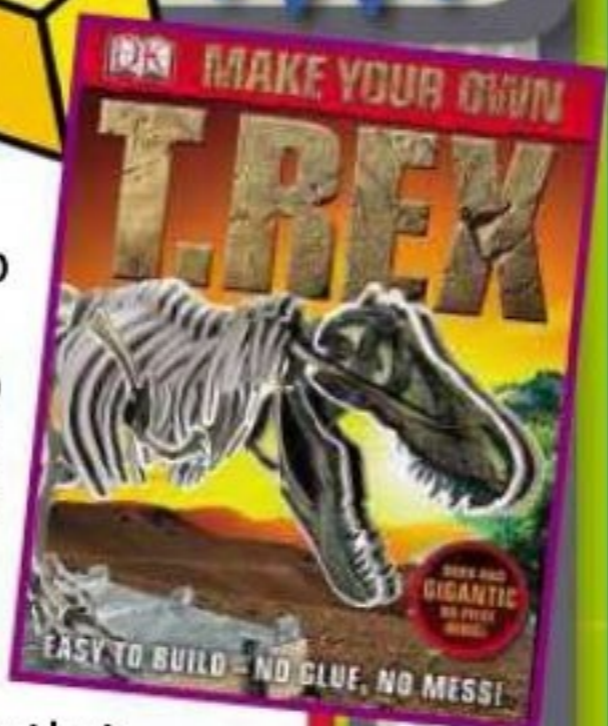
WIN A FOSSIL!

You can win one of two *Make Your Own T.Rex* kits by Dorling Kindersley. SMS* "NGK TREX" followed by your name, age and address to 33970.

MAKE YOUR OWN T.REX

More than 65 million years ago reptiles dominated and one group, dinosaurs, evolved into the biggest creatures to ever roam Earth. Now you can have your very own T.Rex! Become an expert palaeontologist and build your own dinosaur. Use the book's step-by-step picture instructions that focus on the different parts of the mighty T.Rex. Learn about the hips, spine, ribs, legs and scary jaws. You don't need glue and it won't be a mess – when you're done, you'll have a dinosaur fossil that is almost a metre long!

TIP: Make sure you pop all the pieces out of the boards before you start. You don't want to miss a piece and start all over again!



COURTESY OF STER KINEKOR / PS3 (OLYMPICS); COURTESY OF PAN MCMILLAN (BAKER STREET BOYS); COURTESY OF DORLING KINDERSLEY (T.REX); GO TO PAGE 49 FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

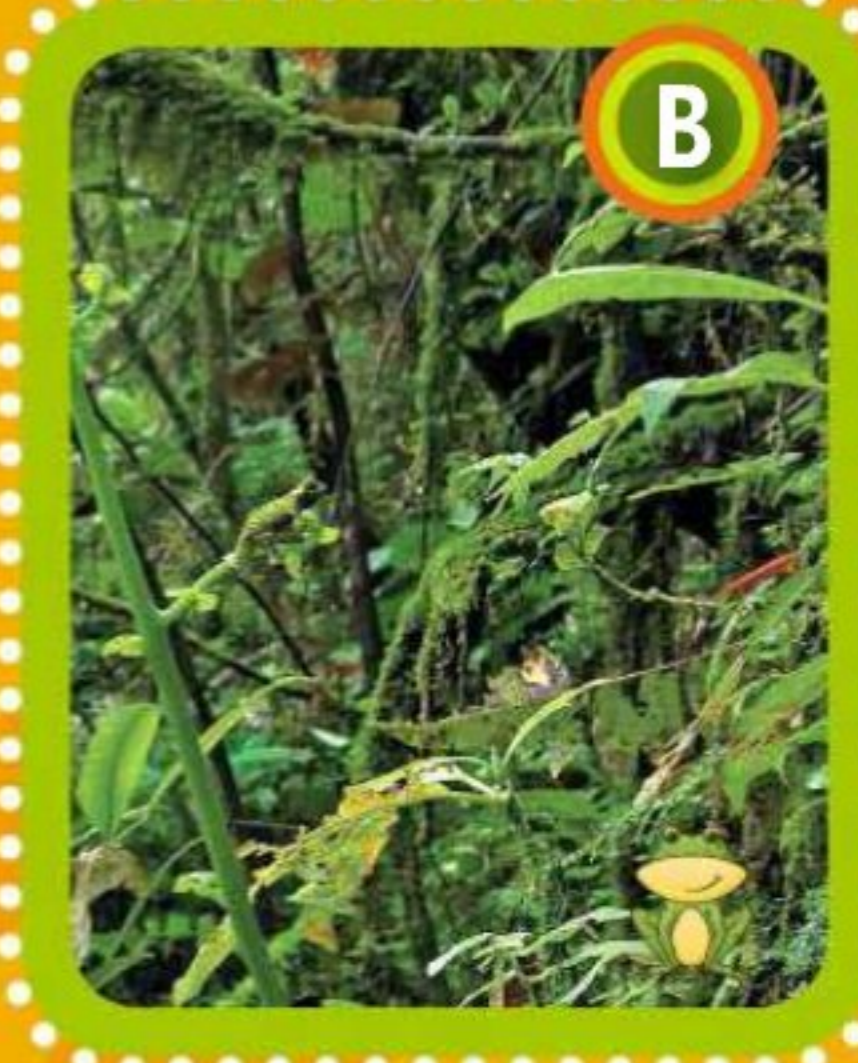
Find the HIDDEN ANIMALS

Animals often blend in with their environments for protection. Find each animal below in one of the pictures. Write the letter of the correct picture next to each animal's name. **ANSWERS ON PAGE 50**

1. starfish _____
2. crab _____
3. arctic hare _____
4. owl _____
5. gazelle _____
6. chameleon _____



A



B



C



D



E



F

GERRY ELLIS / MINDEN PICTURES / NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC STOCK (A);
 © PIOTR NASKRECKI / MINDEN PICTURES (B, E); © THOMAS DRESSLER / GETTY
 IMAGES (C); © VALERIE TAYLOR / ARDEA (D); BIOSPHOTO / JUAN-CARLOS MUNOZ (F)



"MAYBE MY BATTERY IS GOING FLAT."

Just Joking



GARY FIELDS

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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All entries must include your name, age, postal address, home telephone number, cell number, e-mail and any mandatory information specific to a competition, including answers to qualifying questions unless otherwise specified. • Prizes and giveaways cannot be transferred or exchanged for cash. • If you cannot meet any one of the entry requirements, the judges reserve the right to award the prize to a runner-up. • NG KIDS has the right to substitute the gift or prize with something of the same value. • The copyright of all entries, letters, photographs, artwork, SMSs and questions belongs exclusively to NG KIDS and NG KIDS reserves the right to edit and republish them in any media. • Winners may decline to have their name used in advertising or listed publicly. • Competitions and giveaways are open to anyone 14 years or younger, except employees of Media24, sponsors and their agents or any company associated with the competition and their immediate families. • Where the competition prize is a holiday stipulating that it is for a certain number of adults and children, "children" will be taken to be under the age of 12, unless otherwise stipulated. • Unless specified only submissions or entries from South Africa are allowed. If winners reside outside of South Africa they may be liable for transport, courier or postage costs. • The winners will be notified telephonically and their names will appear in NG KIDS magazine. • The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. • Allow two months for delivery of prizes from winners' announcement in NG KIDS. • The prizes will be awarded to correct entries drawn randomly by computer after the closing date, except when there is judging involved or it is stated otherwise. • If the winner cannot be contacted within two weeks after the closing date, an alternative winner will be drawn. • All competition entry SMSs are charged at R1,50 each. Free minutes and SMS bundles do not apply. You can enter as many times as you like, unless stated otherwise. • By entering competitions online, via e-mail or SMS, you agree to receive future correspondence from NG KIDS magazine and the prize sponsors. You can opt out at any stage by sending an e-mail containing your name, surname, cell number and e-mail address with the subject line "opt out" to optout@ngkids.co.za. • The entrant accepts that entry to the competition does not constitute a contract or any form of legal commitment between the entrant and NG KIDS, Media24 or the National Geographic Society. • NG KIDS shall not assume liability for any ambiguity, error, oversight or omission whether negligent or otherwise which may be committed by any employee of the participating magazine, their agents or associates in respect of competitions or giveaways published in the magazine or online. • Entry signifies acceptance of the rules. • Competitions in the NG KIDS September 2012 issue close on 25 September 2012 unless otherwise specified.

*GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS

Children must ask an adult's permission. SMSs charged at R1. • Free minutes and SMS bundles do not apply. • Offer valid until 25 September 2012. • Choose one of two books by Gill Lewis – *Sky Hawk*, valued at R105, or *White Dolphin*, valued at R110. Gift offer limited to the first 139 new and existing subscribers, thereafter only the discount of 20 percent for new subscribers and 25 percent for existing subscribers apply. There are 71 copies of *Sky Hawk* and 68 copies of *White Dolphin*. • We reserve the right to replace the featured gift with one of equal value. • Offer is not valid in conjunction with Vitality offer. • Discovery Vitality offer valid only for active Vitality members. • All subscribers agree to receive future correspondence from NG KIDS. You can opt out at any stage by sending an e-mail containing your name, surname, cell number and e-mail address with the subject line "opt out subscriber" to optout@ngkids.co.za. • Offer is open to SA addresses only – call

021-405-1905 for international rates. • NG KIDS CLUB benefits are strictly for South African residents. • Staff of Media24 (Ltd) and their immediate family, sponsors and their advertising agencies are not entered into monthly subscriber competitions.

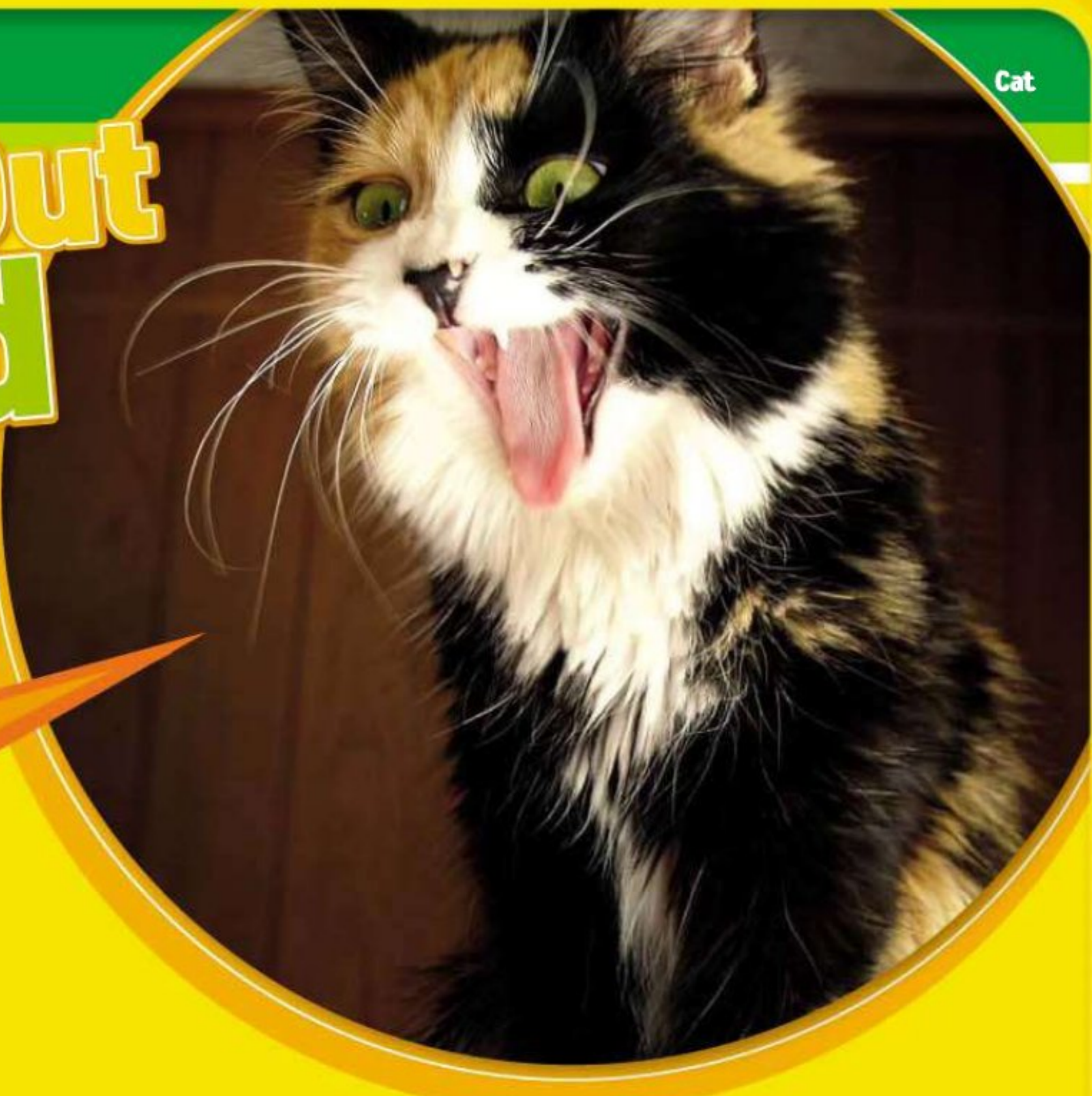
YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHERS COMPETITION TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

• The competition opens on 29 August and closes on 20 November 2012. • It is open to all readers who are between six (6) and fourteen (14) years of age on 1 November 2012. • All photographs must be the entrant's own work. • Only one photograph for each category per entrant will be accepted. • All entries remain the property of NG KIDS and we regret that we cannot return any photographs or CDs. • Please supply a residential, rather than a PO Box address. • NG KIDS and the National Geographic Society retain the right to use all entry images in post-competition publicity throughout the world. We reserve the right to exhibit and reproduce photographs with a credit to the photographer. Winners may decline to have their name used in advertising or listed publicly. In this instance NG KIDS/NGS reserves the right to publish their photograph without credit and by entering into this competition they accept this. • The National Geographic Society and Media24 accept no responsibility for loss and damage. • If feasible, finalists will require a model release for any recognisable people in the photograph, a location release for any private property in the photograph and a copyright license from any authors of works that appear in the photograph. • The finalists and winner will be notified telephonically by middle January 2013 and their names will appear in the March 2013 issue of NG KIDS magazine. • MMS entries are charged at standard rates. Free minutes do not apply. • A panel of experts will judge the entries based on creativity (50 percent) and photograph quality (50 percent). The decision of the judges is final and no correspondence will be entered into. • Photographs must have been taken within three years before date of entry. • Digital entries must be 5 megabytes or smaller and must be in JPEG format. A low res version can be sent as long as high resolution is available for printing. • Originals must be available in print-ready format. • Minor burning or colour correction, cropping and the use of a fisheye lens is acceptable. Digital manipulation other than the above is not acceptable and will render the photograph ineligible for the competition. • The first five entrants will receive a SanDisk 8GB Extreme 30MB/s SDHC card. • Twelve finalists will each win a year's subscription to NG KIDS, a Nikon Coolpix S2600 camera and a pair of Nikon 10x25 Sportlite Binoculars plus a hamper containing a SanDisk 8GB Extreme Pro 95MB/s SDHC card, a SanDisk Clip+ and 4GB MP3 player, a SanDisk micro SD 4GB SDHC and adapter. • The overall winner will receive a Nikon D3100 Twin Lens Kit (18-55mm VR and 55-200mm VR), including free camera training, a family holiday for four to Sabi Sabi and a hamper consisting of a SanDisk 16GB Extreme Pro 95MB/s SDHC card, a SanDisk ImageMate all-in-one USB 3.0 card reader and a SanDisk Cruzer Ultra Backup 32GB USB flash drive. • The Sabi Sabi prize includes return road transfers from Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport (KMIA) to Sabi Sabi, two nights' accommodation on a complimentary basis for two adults and two children sharing, all meals, morning and evening safaris, sundowners and local tax and must be taken within six months of the winner being notified, excluding certain periods and subject to availability. Extras such as beverages (those not included in the prize), telephone, laundry, curios, spa treatments, gratuities and other additional expenses are excluded. Airport taxes will be for the winner's account. Persons under the age of 16 are not allowed on walking safaris. • Airlink will sponsor return flights on Airlink from either Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban to KMIA.

WINNERS FROM NG KIDS JUNE ISSUE

Spiderman hampers: Aidan Hughes, Cole Kesten; **Little Deviants games:** Jadon Hummel, Nikhil Pillay; **Olivia book series:** Maxine Fitz Patrick; **Urbanears headphones:** SW Liversage, Ethan Cluck.

Laugh Out Loud



**KNOCK,
KNOCK.**

Who's there?
Leaf.
Leaf who?
Leaf me alone.

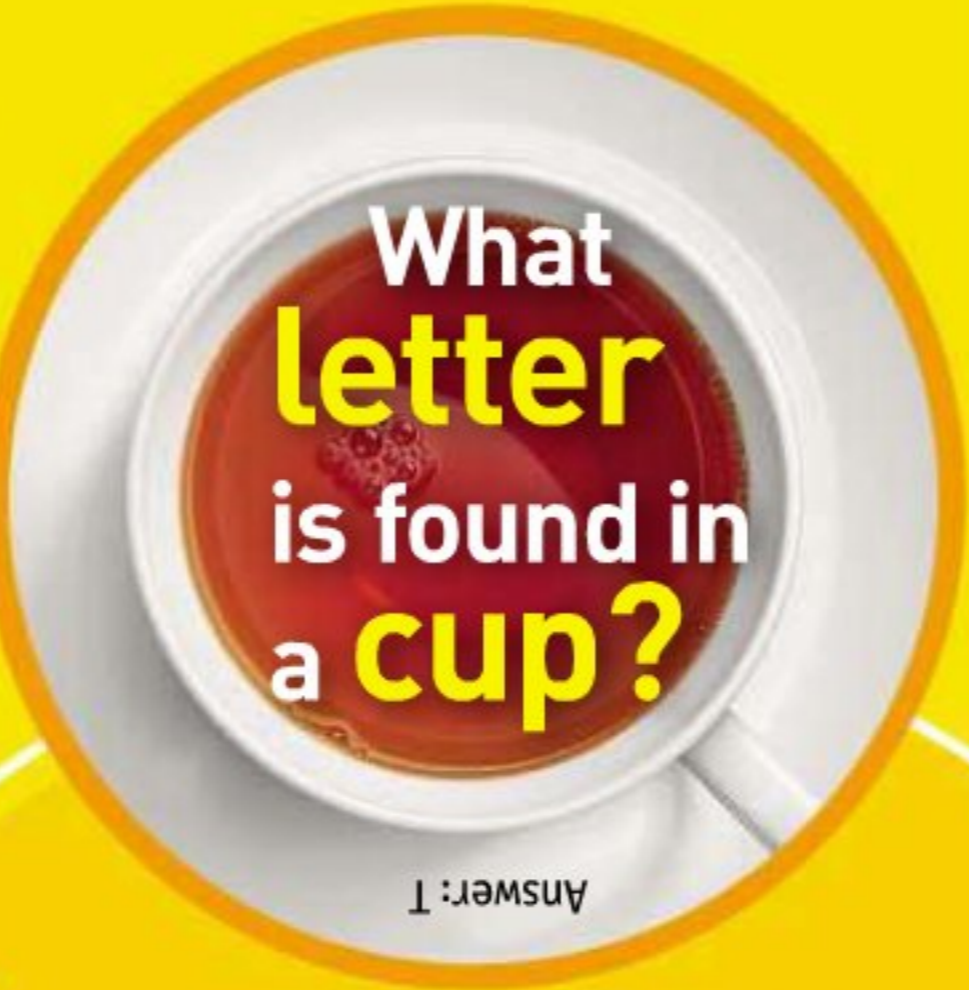


Q

What did the clean dog say to the insect?

Long time no flea.

A



What letter is found in a cup?

Answer: T

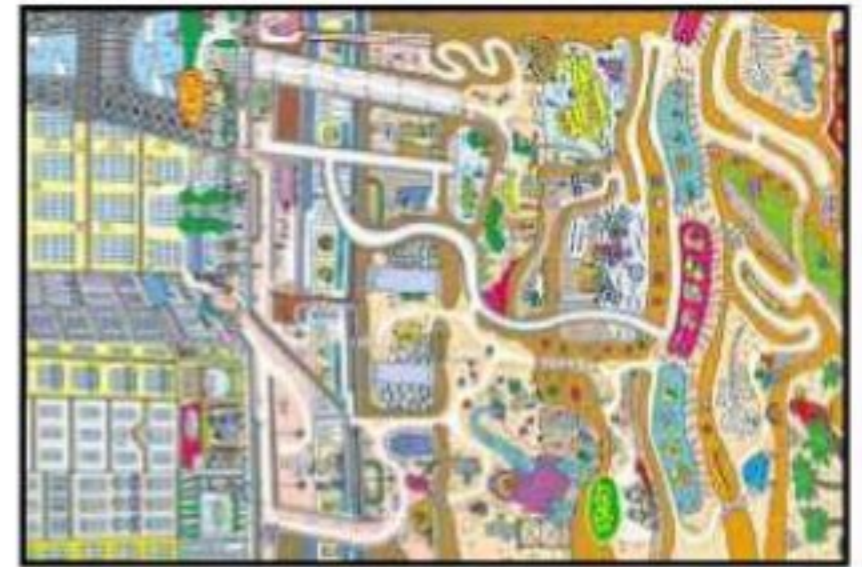
Answers

"Hidden Animals" (page 48):
1. D, 2. E, 3. F, 4. C, 5. A, 6. B

Bonus: a hole in one

Bottom row: cereal, honeycomb, golf hole.
Middle row: rabbit hole, swimming tube, keyhole.
Top row: doughnut, Swiss cheese, guitar.

"What in the World" (page 42):



"A-maze-ing Parts" (page 40):

Q

Why did the chewing gum cross the road?



A: It was stuck to the leg of a chicken.

Q: How does a group of dolphins make a decision?



A: They flipper coin.

Tongue Twister

Kindly kittens
knitting mittens
keep
kazooing
in the king's
kitchen.

GUILTY OF "FORGETTING" YOUR HOMEWORK AT HOME?

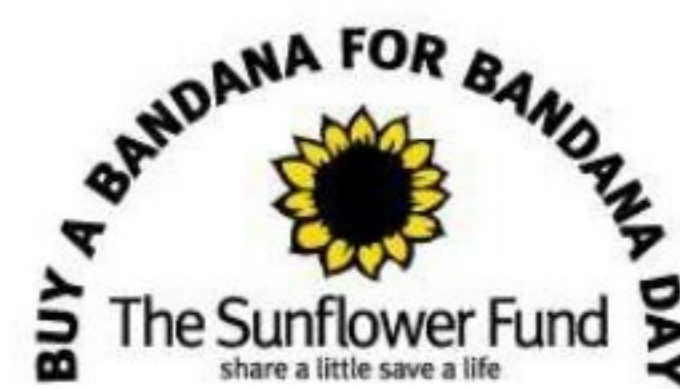
Buy a bandana for R20 and I'll forgive you.
For you may just save my life.



The Sunflower Fund educates and recruits potential bone marrow stem cell donors to help save the lives of patients diagnosed with leukaemia and other life threatening blood disorders. Spread the message and share your comments on [Facebook.com/TheSunflowerFund](https://www.facebook.com/TheSunflowerFund)



SUPPLIERS: THE JUPITER DRAWING ROOM (CAPE TOWN), RED CROSS WAR MEMORIAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL KINDLY ASSISTED THE SUNFLOWER FUND



12 OCTOBER

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